

nate. Any lawyer looking at this article will see that it may be a fruitful source of trouble between the two countries. In the first place American vessels have the right to come in under stress of weather. What is it to be? A storm that will sweep the decks, a high wind, or what?

HON. MR. HOWLAN—The captain of a fishing smack will soon tell you that.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Yes, but he has to go to the Court of Admiralty to have it decided. Is it a phrase that you can define the meaning of? Is it not open to a construction that any one or two individuals may put upon it different from that put upon it by anybody else.

HON. MR. HOWLAN — Stress of weather is easily defined.

HON. MR. SCOTT—They may load, reload, tranship and buy supplies for a homeward voyage, but are not allowed to buy supplies to go out and fish again. How are you to tell whether the vessel has gone out to fish again or not? Are you to follow each vessel out to sea, and have marine police to watch each craft? It would require a police boat to be a sort of tender to every American fishing vessel that might happen to come into port. My hon. friend from Prince Edward Island smiles. No doubt he would be favorable to any Treaty that might be made.

HON. MR. HOWLAN—I will tell you that when the papers are before the House.

HON. MR. SCOTT—If the Treaty means anything, it is a concession and, I am bold enough to say, before twelve months roll over you will find the interpretation of that clause will give rise to most angry feelings, and bitter-contention and will form the subject of diplomatic correspondence between the two countries. The thing is a fraud! a farce! Hon. gentlemen may smile, but if they mark my words, they will find that before three years my observations will be somewhat confirmed. Then again in buying supplies, American fishing vessels are not allowed to barter; they must pay

cash for them. Where is the concession there to Canada? I do not see it. If it is a concession it is under very ambiguous language. By the way, there is—I must withdraw my observations. Canadian vessels are to have similar privileges in American waters? Thank you for nothing! If the privilege of fishing in Canadian waters was considered by the Halifax Commission to be worth half a million dollars a year for the period of ten years during which the treaty was to be in force—if the Canadian waters were considered of that much value over and above the American waters, then I doubt very much if Canadian fishermen are likely to fish in American waters. I have never heard very much importance attached to any privileges that the Americans could offer to Canadians fishing in their waters. There may be, and no doubt there are in some isolated cases, but I take the broad question, is there anything like an equality of interest in saying that we grant to American fishermen the right to come into our waters, and in return the Canadian fishermen shall have the same right in American waters? To balance in any way the privilege accorded to American fishermen it is only right to say that the privilege to Canadians of selling in the American market should be the equivalent. American fishermen sell a comparatively small amount of fish caught in their own waters; our fishermen sell from three to four millions of dollars' worth annually, according to the year, to the American people. They sell it, as they will have to sell it in the future, subject to a high tax on going into the American market, and we have not so far come to those mutual and generous concessions that we are told have been made by the high contracting power on the other side of the line. Their bays are not open to our fishermen even under the interpretation given to the bays on our side of the line.

The next paragraph, No. 13, is not very important. It requires that every vessel must have her number on her bows. I suppose it is in order that a vessel may be identified if she gets away. The 14th article provides penalties for infraction of the treaty, and the mode of trial, and appeals for the defence only.

HON. MR. SCOTT.