

engaged therein ; and I have pointed out the fact that no law of Canada pretends to repeal the British acts or proclamations of 1830, as one striking evidence of the evasive nature of her pretended justification.

So long as the flag of Great Britain flies over Canada, our rights, under the Treaty of 1818, are permanent ; and though we may regret Canada's unwillingness to live up to them, that is no reason for yielding them up, nor for not persistently demanding redress for the injuries inflicted on our fishermen, and the full measure of that which is accorded us in the treaty. The list of these spoliations is long ; and the sense of wrong inflicted on us has led Congress unanimously to enact measures of retaliation, and to place their control in the hands of the President.

The rights, elaborately defined by treaty, which we possess along the coasts and in the bays, harbors and ports of British North America, belong as fully to the United States as does the Capitol or the White House at Washington. They are the trophies of the centuries of privation, toil and bloodshed, through which our colonial ancestors secured themselves from foreign influences.

There is not a foot of British North America, from Lake Superior to the Atlantic, to the winning of which from France our American ancestors did not bear their share in arms. The memories of Lake George, Frontenac, Detroit, Quebec and Louisbourg are our heirlooms as well as England's. Great Britain's fishing rights, in or adjacent to what is now British North America, were never exclusive. Whatever pertained to the great common of fisheries, whatever enured from the conquest of Canada, equally pertained and enured to us as to her. The Treaty of 1783 regulated mutual joint and several uses in a part of these old common or acquired fishery rights, and that of 1818 was a partial re-arrangement thereof. In said treaties, no pretension can be found that Great Britain then or ever before had any exclusive ownership over the fisheries of the North-east.

Canada also has refused to perform the obligation of the 29th article of the Treaty of 1871, admitting merchandise destined for the United States to a free transit across her territory, whilst she enjoys a similar right from the United States.