

every individual in this Dominion. What do we find as the result of the course pursued by our Government? Very large sums have been invested in building swift vessels for the Fisheries; there are gentlemen within the sound of my voice who, I have reason to believe, are interested in this enterprise, who have put their funds in this great industry, and are satisfied to go on investing in it until, ere long, we will have perhaps one of the finest fishing fleets in the world. Anyone reading the English press must be struck with the fact that they were quite surprised to learn that we had in the Dominion of Canada such vast wealth in our fisheries. In connection with this subject I regret to find that in that great bay to which fishermen come, from Nova Scotia as well as from the United States, the Government have not thought fit so far—although I have brought it to their notice on many occasions since I have had the honor of a seat in this House—to establish a harbor of refuge on the north coast of Prince Edward Island as well as to dredge out some of the smaller harbors. Before this session closes I hope to be able to present to the House a map of Prince Edward Island, showing where the different wrecks have occurred on that coast during the last 30 years, and, I trust, shall, at all events, be able to get the approval and sanction of this House, and the sanction of the Government to have some steps taken in the direction I have indicated. During the last 30 years not a season has passed without loss of life occurring on that coast for want of a harbor of refuge.

In twelve months from next July we will have to enter upon the consideration of a new Treaty with the United States. If we had been obliged at any time after the conclusion of the Halifax Fisheries commission, to enter into a re-consideration of that question, I doubt if we could have presented so strong a case as we can now. Those who have paid attention to the fisheries know that it is necessary to have access to both fishing grounds, particularly to those of the Grand Gulf of St. Lawrence. After the arbitration, while the fish were scarce in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, they were found in great abundance on the coasts of the United States; but last year it was the reverse, showing how little man

knows about the habits of the fish. While there was great abundance of fish on our coasts there was not enough on the coast of the United States to supply the markets of the cities on the Atlantic sea-board; therefore I say that when the question comes up again, the British Government will be able to bring such proof before the gentlemen appointed to deal with it as will convince them that it is necessary for the fishermen of this continent to have access to both fishing grounds.

I am sure it must be very gratifying to find that during the past year so many people have been induced to make Canada their home. For a lengthened period an emigrant leaving the old world, particularly the British islands and Germany, looked to the United States as the land of promise. Canada had no attraction for them. We find that all that is now changed, and that the people of the old country are looking to Canada as a desirable place in which to make their homes. They find in the Dominion free lands, free schools, and free institutions; they find a prosperous country, offering every inducement to the industrious immigrant. I cannot say, as the hon. gentleman from Halifax did, that the emigrants coming to us are not as good as the people born in this country. I believe very differently. Those who have been accustomed to live on small incomes, and to work for small wages, will certainly do a great deal towards developing the industries of this country. It is unquestionable that the foreign element built the railways of the United States, and, as I learn from the contractors for the Canadian Pacific Railway, they are also building ours; therefore we should welcome them to our shores, and it is with great pleasure I learn that the immigration into this country has been so much increased during the present year.

The 6th paragraph refers to British Columbia. It was with a feeling of gratification that I read the report placed on our table by the experienced leader of the House. From the time that British Columbia entered into the Confederation, she has had grave cause of complaint, and from time to time negotiations have been going on respecting terms of union. A certain gentleman who does not now hold a seat in either branch of Parliament, was sent by the Provincial Government to