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NINTH YEAR. WEDNESDAY MORNING APRIL 11. 1888. PRICE ONE CENT.

THE FISHERIES TREATY.

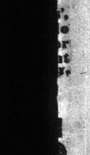
SIR CHARLES DISCUSSES THE SUBJECT FOR FIVE HOURS.

A Strong and Eloquent Speech—Canada Holds Her Own—The Trade Proposals.

Some Puzzling Statements—The Bill to Give Effect to the Treaty.

OTTAWA, April 10.—Sir Charles had the floor to-day and he held it for over five hours, telling the House all about the fisheries treaty and the circumstances which preceded its consummation. He also introduced for a second reading the bill which is to give effect to the treaty, which the act says may be cited as the "Treaty of Washington of 1888."

Sir Charles was in good form after his recent illness and he spoke strongly and at times quite eloquently. There were a great many world in the speech of the Canadian plenipotentiary, and if given in full it would fill two pages of The World. There was a great deal that was historical, a great deal that was technical and a great deal that was interesting in the speech, and it was listened to with rapt attention by the House. If Sir Charles' health continues as robust as it appears at present the Budget may be looked for in a few days. Sir Richard Cartwright is at Montreal to-night attending the Nationalist banquet and there is no doubt he will learn with regret that Sir Charles made his treaty speech during the Kingston Easter's absence.



SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

Sir Charles devoted over an hour to reviewing the Treaty of Paris of 1783 which was abrogated by the war of 1812, the Treaty of 1818, the Treaty of 1854 and latterly the Treaty of 1871, all of which ended in rupture. Although all these treaties had been given effect at various times, yet for over 100 years the matter of the international fisheries had been one of irritation between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States and the people of North America, "and with all this irritation," said Sir Charles, "there was no part of the empire so dominus as the Dominion of Canada interested in the settlement of this fish question as Canada and Newfoundland.

The historical part of the speech dealing with the Jay treaties named was of great interest to the House, being freely interpolated with statistics and records from various sources. Speaking of the names of the statesmen who had played prominent parts in the construction of these international covenants, Sir Charles looked upon it as a special compliment that the abrogation of the treaty of 1854, which, he said, was the most satisfactory of any of the treaties between Canada and the United States, this action was brought about by one who had taken idea that during the civil war in the United States all the sympathy of Canada and Scandinavia was known to be with the South. This was a great mistake, for ten of our own countrymen fought on the side of the North to every one that was found in the Confederate ranks.

Sir John Macdonald: "Yes, and twenty."

Sir Charles then proceeded to say that ever since the Confederation was broken both of the great political parties in this country had been contending for its practical resurrection or for a policy that would give a free interchange between the two countries of their natural products. Sir Charles has made this statement on a previous occasion more than once on this session, and both sides of the House are beginning to wonder just exactly what he means. The leader of the Government carefully avoids making any similar announcement with the same unguarded freedom that the Minister of Finance does. The Liberals are invariably exercised every time they hear the Finance Minister make this assertion in the House.

Canada Holds Her Own.

Sir Charles next had a good deal to say about the Treaty of Halifax, with its award of $5,500,000 to Canada by the Commissioners. The speaker rang in this point to show that all through these years of irritation Canada managed to hold its own, that she was holding her own now and that she would continue to hold her own under the terms of the new treaty if it were adopted by the United States Senate, the Legislature of Newfoundland and the Parliament of Canada. The speaker then went on to describe the conference at Washington, the personnel of the conference and the difficulties that were made by the English plenipotentiaries to see how far the American envoys would go in opening out the markets of Canada and the United States. He told the House, as he told it on a previous occasion, that all the overtures of the English commissioners were met by a categorical refusal to discuss the tariff, the American commissioners putting in the contention that Congress alone had the power to deal with the tariff.

"We were prepared," continued Sir Charles, "to give the Government of the United States the fullest opportunity of adopting just how far they would go. The air had been full of Commercial Union rumors, and we were anxious to see what they meant. I found plenty of men in Washington who were willing and anxious to discuss Commercial Union, but all allusions to Unrestricted Reciprocity were treated with scorn. Commercial Union would give Canada to the United States; that was the reason why every one I met in Washington was willing to discuss it. There was no doubt, that the valley of the Government of the United States was about as near the policy of our own Government as it possibly could be."

Sir Charles next proceeded to remind the House that every word he might say in support of the treaty, which he held was so advantageous to Canada, would be used against the treaty in the discussion in the United States Senate. The course he (Sir Charles) had adopted was to show the best advantages possible to Canada. He also entered fully into the question of delimitations marked out by the treaty, and said he was sorry that he could not lay before the House a chart of these jurisdictional waters, as had been suggested by Mr. Jones of Halifax. The Government would be placed on the British Admiralty charts, and would be in the possession of the Government at a future day. The minister then described at length the clauses of the treaty dealing with