

and was not to be proclaimed until a similar enactment should be made by the Canadian Parliament.

The minister remarks that the Honourable Mr. Bayard was hardly justified in stating that this Act "followed in the line of the concurrent legislation which has done so much in the last seventy years to expand the good intercourse of the United States with British North American possessions," in view of the long standing and still unaccepted offer of the Canadian Parliament relating to the coasting trade, and the repeated expression of a readiness to reciprocate the privilege of wrecking and towing, but, from the conclusion of Mr. Bayard's despatch, he (the minister of marine and fisheries), trusts that the United States authorities may yet be willing to reconsider the relations of the two countries upon this subject.

The minister considers that it has been shown that, as regards the cause of humanity, the provision made by the Canadian government and parliament is already ample, and the practice of the government has been most liberal in this regard.

It remains therefore, so far as Canadian legislation is concerned, to deal with the commercial aspect of the subject. The offers on the part of Canada to the United States are now:—

1st. In reference to reciprocity in coasting and towing privileges, Revised Statutes of Canada, chapter 83, section 5: "The Governor in Council may from time to time declare that the foregoing provisions of this Act (being provisions which confine the coasting trade to Canadian vessels) shall not apply to the ships or vessels of any foreign country in which British ships are admitted to the coasting trade of such country, and to carry goods and passengers from one port or place to another in such country."

2nd. That in reference to reciprocity in wrecking it may be said that, while no statutory offer exists, the appended precis of correspondence shows that the Canadian government has been long prepared to enter into reciprocal relations with the United States in wrecking and towing, and that this fact has been communicated to Her Majesty's government.

The minister of marine and fisheries therefore recommends that the authorities of the United States be informed that Your Excellency's advisers desire the acceptance of these offers, and, while ready to arrange for reciprocity in either of the two subjects, are unable to accept the partial and very limited reciprocity in wrecking as proposed by the United States in the Act of Congress before mentioned.

The minister further recommends, in order to show the earnest desire of the Canadian government for friendly relations with the United States, that the government of the United States be informed that Your Excellency's advisers are prepared to promote legislation so that these offers may be limited to inland navigation in waters conterminous to those of the United States, or generally may be extended to the waters of both countries as the United States may prefer.

The committee concurring in the above report and the recommendations therein contained, advise that Your Excellency be moved to forward a copy of this minute to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, also to Her Majesty's minister at Washington.

All of which is respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's approval.

JOHN J. McGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

"A."

CERTIFIED COPY of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 1st June, 1888.

The committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a despatch dated 28th March, 1888, from Her Majesty's minister at Washington, inclosing a copy of despatch which he had addressed to the Marquis of Salisbury based on a