

amendments concerning the Indians. And these six measures are positively all, these petty amendments to six existing statutes are positively the entire bill of fare that the hon. gentleman has presented. I do not allude to this for the purpose of exposing the paucity of the measures and their comparative insignificance. I wish to call the attention of the hon. gentleman to his unreasonable expectations, and his unreasonable demands on previous occasions. The measures to be submitted, I have no doubt, are not all here, but we had a right to expect from the manner in which they announced their policy, that new measures of more than ordinary consequence would be mentioned in the Speech. I am sure, Sir, that, considering the hon. gentlemen's promises, considering the hon. gentlemen's speeches during the elections, the measures which, above all, are demanded to fulfil the reasonable expectations of his supporters are not contained in this Speech.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD : I cannot in any way object to the manner in which the hon. the leader of the Opposition—and allow me to congratulate him on his position in this respect—has criticised the Speech. Indeed, I am very much relieved by it. I have heard it said that that hon. gentleman announced that it was his duty for the next five years to make the hon. gentlemen on this side of the House as uncomfortable as possible. But I can assure the hon. gentleman that, from his kindness of heart, his speech did not at all render us uncomfortable on this occasion. I can agree with him in the just compliment he made to the mover and seconder of the resolutions to-day. Whether they belong to the one side or the other, as the hon. gentleman truly said, it is of great importance to the country, of great importance to this House, that the representative men in the House should present as much talent as the country can supply. I would agree with the hon. gentleman in that respect that, from the manner in which the mover and seconder addressed themselves to their duties to-day, this House and the country have reason to be satisfied with the substantial parliamentary ability which they have displayed. But, while the hon. gentleman paid a due

meed of praise to the mover and seconder of these resolutions, he forgot himself for a moment, and without the usual parliamentary courtesy, he charged the hon. gentleman with ignorance, said that the member for Queen's lived in a far off place, somewhere in Prince Edward Island, and added that he could not possibly know anything about the Washington Treaty. I think if there is a population in the whole Dominion interested in the Washington treaty, it is the people of Prince Edward Island, and I believe that island has gained as much as, if not more than any other part of the Dominion by that much maligned treaty. The hon. gentleman said, with respect to that treaty, that the mover was ignorant of the universal condemnation that the Washington Treaty had received from the country. All that I can say is—that that treaty with all its faults was submitted to the Parliament of Canada and to the representatives of the people of Canada in the year 1872, and that it received the support of the representatives of the people by a very large majority, a majority of sixty-six in this House. And the hon. gentleman will be glad to be reminded that, among those who supported that treaty were some of the most prominent members of the party of which he was the head. I was not prepared for the compliment that was paid to me by my hon. friend as being in some respects connected with the formation of that treaty, but I remember perfectly well that when this speciality of the treaty, the fishery question, was before this House, and when the question was discussed as to what pecuniary compensation the Dominion should receive for the fishing privileges given to the Americans, the hon. gentleman said in this House that he viewed with loathing the idea of accepting money for our rights in these fisheries, the Dominion or territorial rights. We all can remember that. But that hon. gentleman, when he changed his place from being a member of the Opposition to being the head of the Government, he very properly took all possible steps to bring that loathed article of the treaty into successful operation, and he succeeded and the award was made, and he has a right to credit for it. The hon. gentleman is exactly in the position of Vespasian,