

commerce, navigation, fishing and hunting as the United States. In fact, this principle has become well recognized by all the nations outside the three-mile limit, except where expressly limited by treaty. We find the United States asserting most emphatically their right to fish in Canadian waters outside the three-mile limit during that time. No vindication has been made by the Government in regard to the course they have unwarrantably taken, they have never seriously contended that the Behring Sea was a closed sea; geographical facts are indisputable on this point, and such a contention would be looked upon as ridiculous; therefore, I say it is a matter of satisfaction and relief to the public mind to be assured in His Excellency's Speech that there will be so speedy a settlement of this question as to obviate the necessity of this Dominion requesting the Imperial authorities to exercise that power—that physical power if necessary—to prevent a further invasion of those rights to which we are entitled, and which we will ever assert.

I notice there are other questions in the Address of a special character, which will undoubtedly receive the best consideration of this House, the discussion of which I will not enter into on this occasion. Permit me, in conclusion, to indulge the hope that the prosperity which to-day crowns our common country will increase as the years roll on, so that the name of Canada will become proverbial amongst the nations for progress, prosperity and happiness. I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution in reply to His Excellency's most gracious Speech.

HON. MR. SCOTT—The gentlemen that have been selected by the Government of this country or by the leader of this House to move and second the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne have performed their part with very great credit to themselves, and I am quite sure I speak the sentiments of the Senate when I say that these gentlemen have discharged their duty with much more ability than is usually exhibited on similar occasions. They have spoken with very great point and force on the subject matters with which they are specially conversant. The attention of this country has been for many years called particularly to the newer portions of our Dominion—Manitoba and

the North-West. Very great hope and confidence in the return we would receive from that country and the great development that was to take place there have for a long time been experienced. I am glad that two gentlemen, one coming from Manitoba and the other from a distant portion of the Territories, are so familiar with the many questions which are of intense interest at the present moment in discussing subjects germane to the great North-West, and I hope this House will hear their voices very frequently when matters affecting that part of the Dominion come up for discussion here. I share with the mover and seconder the sentiments which they have expressed with reference to His Excellency's visit to the North-West and to the Pacific coast, and I have no doubt we shall be largely benefited by the utterances which His Excellency has already given expression to, and by the future references he will make on many public occasions, when the opportunity offers, to give his views of the capabilities of that country. We know that testimony of that kind is far more valuable than any other that can be conveyed, particularly to those whose good opinion we desire to entertain.

I recognize a very unusual paragraph here, somewhat of a belligerent one—the third paragraph in the Speech—that is, the announcement that negotiations are on foot which will lead to the removal of the differences which have been raised in reference to the Behring Sea outrages. I was very glad indeed to hear the seconder of the Address speak on the subject. He is perfectly familiar with the history of the events which have preceded those of the last few years, and he has very clearly told us that before the acquisition of Alaska by the United States that country not only questioned, but refused to concede the right of Russia to the possession of the fisheries outside of the ordinary three mile limit, though very shortly after the United States acquired that territory she herself set up just such rights. The paragraph introduced in the Speech would lead one to believe that the seizures were of recent date; but we all know that they have been going on for nearly four years. I think it was in 1886 that the first seizures were made by American cruisers in those waters, and the remonstrance by this Government passed through Mr. West's