

vince of Nova Scotia, which is the garden of the world, still the high prices which have prevailed, have given to the horticulturist compensation for his toil and some ready money to purchase his necessities. The fisheries have not been so prolific as in other years, but with the high prices which have prevailed, the fishermen have been rewarded for their toil, and have received a fair amount as a return for their enterprise, skill and labour.

Another subject the Governor General has been kind enough to allude to in his speech is the arrival of the 'Niobe' and the 'Rainbow.' I went on board the 'Niobe' at Halifax and found her a very substantial ship. The officers are entertaining and all the appointments are first class. The guns and equipment are quite suitable to that ship, and to instruct the young men on board in all the evolutions required for great guns in ships of greater size and more formidable in armament. I trust there will be no tears shed over sacrifices made by people who join the navy. I believe there will be no recruiting in the rural districts, that amongst the maritime population there will be enough who will avail themselves of the training to bring the complement of the ship up to that character which will enable her to execute all the purposes for which she is required as the nucleus and the training ground for the navy. On the Pacific 'My Little Rainbow' has arrived. I believe the people of the province of the setting sun rejoice at the arrival of a vessel of the Canadian navy and feel already a sense of protection and gratitude that their interests have been cared for and that all their maritime concerns are under the surveillance of a power adequate for their protection.

I shall briefly allude to the Hague Tribunal and the questions which were submitted to that tribunal for an award. It is necessary, in order to understand that question, to refer to the conditions of the Treaty of 1783. In that year Great Britain had just concluded a great war which had been carried on in all quarters of the globe. On the one hand was England and on the other hand were France, Spain and the United States. The war had just come to a disastrous close for

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England. Two of her armies had capitulated. She had lost a great sea fight. Those who wished to assert the right of England to tax 346 chests of tea had lost America; but the counsels of Bute, Murray, Grenville and Townsend had prevailed. Again there was political convulsion in England. The ministry of Lord North had fallen, the Ministry of Rockingham had fallen, the Ministry of Shelbourne had dissolved, and succeeding that was the combined ministry of North and Fox. The war which had been popular, which had waxed in importance, and had been identified with the interest of England, had terminated in disaster, and the people were in gloom and apprehension. They thought the sun of England had set, that it would go back to be a vassal country, that France and Spain would dominate, as they had dominated before, and that England would return to the days of Charles Second and James Second. People who have lost some great possession are very likely to throw some very small one after it, and so the plenipotentiaries of England and the United States had some formal negotiations. It seems that England had to submit to a humiliation at that time, but very fortunately at the moment the United States plenipotentiary to the Court of Madrid arrived in Paris, Rodney achieved his memorable victory, giving the English a vantage ground which they were ready to seize. John Jay conferred with the British plenipotentiaries and others and told his associates that the design of France and Spain was to extend the dominions of Spain from Mexico northward and take in all that region which now belongs to the United States west of the Mississippi. They were also to cut off from the United States all that region which is composed of the States of Minnesota, Dakota and Michigan, and to divide it amongst them, for the purpose of indemnifying themselves for the cost of the late war. In addition to that, they proposed—which would have been the greatest humiliation to England—that they would take possession of Gibraltar, which had been captured by British valour against odds, and defended by British