

time Provinces in respect of this award. Whatever may have been the objection of the Government previous to that year, they receded from it on that occasion, for by giving our fishermen a share of the award in the shape of interest accumulating on it, they gave away their case completely. Such being the fact, I fail to see what objection the Government can have under the present circumstances to granting us our fair share of the award. I hope it is not in consequence of Prince Edward Island being the smallest and weakest of the Provinces. I do not believe it is so; but at the same time I can assure hon. gentlemen opposite that this idea is gaining ground on the Island very rapidly, not only in regard to this matter, but in regard to nearly every other measure respecting the Island. Our terms of Union are no more fulfilled to-day, than we are receiving our share of the fishery award. Last year our Province received in the shape of bounty some \$16,000. Now it appears to me that is a very small amount, and if we are to receive anything like the interests on our share of the award, it should be something much larger than that. I do not see why the balance of the interest which should accrue on our share should not be handed to the Local Government, after the fishery bounty has been paid out of it. Newfoundland receives without any trouble her share, amounting to a million of dollars, and it seems to me that if Newfoundland has a right to that amount, we have at least the right to an equal share, for the reason that the most profitable fish, the mackerel, have been taken by the Americans on our shores, while, on the other hand, on the shores of Newfoundland the fish which have been caught have been mainly herring, which have been used for the purpose of bait. The mackerel fisheries are not prosecuted there, because there are none of that kind of fish, or very few, on the shores of Newfoundland, and the cod fisheries are altogether beyond the three-mile limit. The hon. gentleman who introduced this resolution has so thoroughly advanced everything in connection with the subject, that I find it is unnecessary for me to say anything more than that I hope the Government will take whatever steps they see fit, to do justice to Prince Edward Island, not only in regard to this award, but in every other respect.

Mr. TUPPER. I regret very much that I cannot on this occasion give a hearty concurrence with the efforts made by the gentlemen who have just addressed the House, from the Maritime Provinces, in reference to this alleged claim. It always affords me, naturally, the very greatest pleasure to be able to add what little weight I can in securing what I believe the Maritime Provinces, or any of them, may be entitled to at the hands of this country. But in the case which has been laid before the House by the three gentlemen, who are well able to advocate their claims, I have failed to discover any fair or equitable reasons for the conclusions to which they have arrived. It is admitted, I conceive, that there is no absolute legal right on the part of Prince Edward Island to receive the amount claimed by this resolution from the revenues of the Dominion of Canada, in addition to the treatment received and the rights already granted that Island by the legislation which took place after the discussion in 1880, to which allusion has been made to-day. They claim that in all fairness, upon certain facts which they say existed in the Island previous to its entrance into Confederation, they are entitled to certain treatment, which has not been accorded to them. I do not hear to-day any mention made of many other matters which are most important in the consideration of this question; I did not hear to-day any allusion made to what had preceded this treaty, in the older Provinces, or in Canada as she stood at the entrance of the Island into the Union. I heard allusion made to certain legislation passed in Prince Edward Island, but I heard no reference made to the enor-

mous expense to which the older Provinces up to the year 1873 had contributed, in protecting those rights which were secured under the Washington Treaty.

Mr. DAVIES. They never spent a dollar in Prince Edward Island.

Mr. TUPPER. I heard no allusion to the fact—and I think in connection with this matter, the all-important fact—that the Provinces of Canada, before the entrance of the Island into the Union, took upon themselves the responsibility, and incurred the expense of setting up the right which under the treaty has been admitted to exist. We know that for years the rights of British subjects in these colonies had been invaded; these rights had been denied by the citizens of the United States, by the fishermen of the United States and by the American Government. Under the old treaty their fishermen had invaded these waters, and they claimed and exercised the right of fishing in our waters for many years. The Government of Canada fitted out cruisers and maintained them, in order to protect the rights and claim the rights of the Canadian fishermen—they claimed that if the Americans wished to participate in those fisheries they must give some compensation. Now, Mr. Speaker, I have heard reference to the fact that nothing was mentioned in the terms of Union between the Island and the older Provinces, in 1871 as to the surrender of their rights, or of the rights which they supposed to exist in connection with the claims under the clause of the treaty in question. But I contend that as the whole course of events, and even the terms of the Union, show that when this Federal Government was seized with the responsibility of protecting the fisheries in the Island, when the responsibilities of protecting those fisheries was placed on the shoulders of the Federal Government, and when the expense in obtaining the treaty was incurred, and the treaty itself was signed and ratified, no word was mentioned in the arrangement between the Island and the Federal Government, we have every reason to believe, when treating this question in a general and broad way, that the Government and the people of the Island had no idea that when they entered into the Union they should ask that treatment should be accorded to them which none of the other Maritime Provinces obtained. We know to-day that this question is approached from a Prince Edward Island point of view, notwithstanding the general question of whatever rights the Maritime Provinces had, was thoroughly discussed, and was decided, and decided in a manner, I must say, which has created considerable satisfaction and approval in the Maritime Provinces generally. In the benefits of that settlement the Island has shared, though she never contributed one dollar towards the immense expense to which the Federal Government went in securing her rights under the treaty. The Federal Government out of this money has not only granted this bounty, which is an advantage to the fishermen of the Island to the same extent as in the Maritime Provinces, but has spent the same amount of money, in proportion to the necessities of the case, in protecting the fisheries of the Island, and in the development of the river fisheries of the Island, in the same way and with the same expense and care as in the older Provinces, which bore the heat and burthen of the day before the Island came into the Union at all. I would not have opposed the treatment accorded to the Island in the settlement of this question, but I think that treatment was fair and generous on the part of the other Provinces, and that the Island has very little to complain of in regard to that treatment. I think if we turn back to what happened previous to the settlement of this question, previous to the Washington Treaty, we will find that the Island, perhaps governed by the views of the hon. gentleman, who has just stated that they do not want to barter these rights for filthy lucre—but at any rate