

those opinions were worthy of remembrance they will be fresh in the minds of hon. gentlemen who were present. I am sorry that my hon. friend opposite, without intending it, I am sure, should have placed in the mouths of the gentlemen with whom we are about, sooner or later, to renew those negotiations, as a distinguished leader of public opinion in Canada, the expressed opinion of the conduct of this country, that it has been barbarous.

HON. MR. SCOTT—The treaty of 1818.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—The treaty of 1818 we must refer to, because we have no other rule of action than the treaty of 1818, and it is this treaty, maintenance of the conditions of which my hon. friend terms barbarous.

HON. MR. SCOTT—I say so still.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—Certainly, the hon. gentleman did say so, and I am sorry that he did, and that he persists in it, for I believe that as a public man he has the welfare of Canada at heart, and that his desire would be to assist the emissaries of Canada in making the best possible bargain with our neighbors. But if he tells our opponents with whom we are going to deal, in the inception of the negotiations, or even before the inception, that the treaty which this country insists upon as its right, and a right which is not denied anywhere, except in certain circles in the United States, is a barbarous treaty, and it would be barbarity to attempt to enforce it, I am sorry my hon. friend should take that position. I would rather he had said nothing, since he could not help us in maintaining the position which we venture to assume on behalf of the country, and which I venture to say that he and his friends would assume if they were in our position on this side of the House.

HON. MR. SCOTT—Never.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—A position which my hon. friend would be sure to take on this same subject if it were under negotiation under the same circumstances. I have seen since this House met various statements and communications on the subject of this treaty, mostly coming from opponents of the treaty and opponents of

this country, and I find exactly the line which my hon. friend took adopted by those people. I find, therefore, that he is in concurrence with them, and I am sorry that it is so. Of course, he is entitled to his own opinions, but I repeat that I am perfectly certain my hon. friend would assume a very different tone if it fell to his duty, which it may likely do before long, to assist in the initiation of another treaty with the United States. He would remember then that this barbarous conduct of ours, which I have seen characterized in London papers in the same way—that this barbarous treaty of ours, and our folly and madness in maintaining our rights, are nothing at all to the conduct of the nation condemning us—that while we never forfeited a ship or robbed a man of a dollar, or inflicted any punishment but a moderate fine for violations of our laws, this very nation has been seizing vessels on the open seas—

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B. C.)—Seventy-five miles from land.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—They have been confiscating them and their cargoes, without allowing those who owned them an opportunity to defend themselves before a court of law; yet I hear no reprobation of that conduct as barbarous. However, I will not pursue the subject any further. I hope, with His Excellency, that some of these days we may have occasion to renew these negotiations, and arrive at a just and equitable conclusion with regard to the conflicting rights of the two countries, which will promote the peace and prosperity which my hon. friend, and everyone here, desires to prevail between the United States and this country.

My hon. friend from Ottawa took issue upon another point with the mover of the Address, and these are practically the only two points upon which any serious issue has been raised or joined with the Government—that is, with regard to the trade of the country. My hon. friend from Montreal cited the comparative increase in the imports of raw material to Canada as a striking incident in the commercial history of this country, which it undoubtedly is; and he spoke of our imports, and compared our imports and exports for internal use between us, the United States and Great Britain. My

HON. MR. ABBOTT.