

Until the passage of the Reciprocity Acts of 1854, the Americans were excluded, in terms of the Convention of 1818, from the right to fish within three miles of the sea-coast of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Canada. Neither could they legally resort to all parts of the Newfoundland shore. Since, however, mackerel can only be caught within that limit, (a) where also the best kinds of other fish are often to be found, the fishermen from the States were frequently led both clandestinely to evade and openly to defy the terms of the International agreement. When detected and caught, their vessels were often confiscated; and, just before the negotiation of the Treaty, the Imperial Government sent out a fleet of armed vessels, (L) while the Colonies

Trade of the United States with the Mairitime Provinces :—

	Imp. from them.	Exp'ts to them.
1849.....		\$3,869,543
1850.....	\$1,358,992	3,618,214
1851.....	1,736,651	4,085,783
1752.....	1,520,330	3,791,956
1853.....	2,272,602	5,311,543
1854.....	2,206,021	7,266,154
1855.....	2,954,420	9,085,676
1856.....	3,822,224	8,146,108
1857.....	3,832,462	7,637,587
1858.....	4,224,948	6,622,473
1859.....	5,518,834	9,213,832
1860.....	4,989,708	8,623,214
1861.....	4,417,476	8,383,755
1862.....	4,046,843	8,236,611
1863, [estimated].....	5,000,000	11,382,312

From the letter of the Secretary to the Treasury, January 1864.

(a) "Our fishermen cannot go through another summer without involving themselves in serious difficulties with the British Provinces. . . Not that war will ensue, unless the fishermen are quieted, but I believe there is danger of bloodshed. *There are no mackerel left on the shores of the United States*, and that fishery cannot be successfully prosecuted without going within three miles of the shore, so that unless we have this privilege, to enjoy the shore fishery without annoyance, the mackerel fishery will be broken up, and that important nursery for American seamen will be destroyed."—Speech of the Hon. Amos Tuck, of New Hampshire, in House of Representatives, 1854.

"Accounts dated the 17th instant, from Port Hood, mention that all the "United States craft fishing along the Nova Scotian coast 'are detained "by the Steamer *Devastation*, for alleged informality in their papers, and "any vessel attempting to leave will be fired into."—Extract from *Quebec Mercury*, September, 1852.

(b) "A circular letter has been sent to the Governors of the several Colonies, announcing that Her Majesty's Government has resolved to send