

life I did not understand the real meaning or importance of the event. With returning years I have looked back with love and loyalty upon the glorious and eventful reign of Her Majesty, as a young sovereign, as a wife, as a mother and as a widow. In all situations of her life I am sure that every one of us can feel happiness and pride. Above all, as has been said by the hon. leader of the Opposition, in her domestic life I am sure she has been a pattern to all matrons. When we think of the mighty increase of the empire in her reign, covering as it does now one-fifth of the civilized world, and the loyalty of hundreds of millions of her subjects—when we contemplate the magnificent extent, wealth and greatness of the empire, I am sure we may have great cause to be thankful and happy, and should pray fervently that she may long live to reign over us happy and glorious, beloved and revered.

HON. GENTLEMEN—Hear! hear!

HON. MR. KAULBACH—As regards the next part of the Speech, we are reminded of the success of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition. I firmly believe it has done a great deal of good to our Dominion; certainly it has given the people of Great Britain some new ideas of Canada. It has made much more widely and favorably known its capabilities and resources, and has obtained for us advantages which could not have been obtained in any other way. As far as the town I come from is concerned, it has done us a pecuniary good. The fish we sent out there as samples have secured favorable notice for our merchants. Models of our schooners and our sail boats and row boats sent were attractive, and the orders for some of the boats were far greater than we could supply. If such was the result in a little town such as Lunenburg in Nova Scotia, I am inclined to believe that similar benefit has accrued to many other parts of this Dominion from the Colonial Exhibition.

I do not see any reference to the political confederation of the colonies, but there is something which we are ripe for and which we ought to have, and probably it is intended to have, a con-

ference of the colonies of the empire as regards defence, and as regards mutual interchange of commerce between the colonies and with great Britain. I think these are matters which should be first considered by the colonies and by Great Britain, and having acquired a better knowledge of each other and secured better and closer trade relations, other more important questions may be taken up for our consideration.

As regards the fisheries I agree with my hon. friend, the leader of the Opposition that it is rather a delicate question to touch upon in its present condition whilst negotiations are pending, and alive as I am to the issues, the rights of our fishermen and what I believe to be the rights of this country, I hesitate to speak on the subject at present. I think it would be better to adopt a different course from what we have seen in the Senate of the United States. The speeches made by certain eastern Senators of that body I am sure do not reflect the dignity or wisdom or the calmness of that august body or the great mass of the republic. I hope and believe that a *modus vivendi* will be arrived at in this matter which will be alike beneficial and satisfactory to all parties, such as will conserve the dignity, friendly relations and interests of all parties.

It is repugnant to my ideas to believe that two great countries situated alongside each other, with only an imaginary line between us, populated by people of the same race, and the same language, cannot settle a matter of this kind in some manner that will secure the rights of all and maintain the friendly relations which now exist on both sides of the line. I do not agree with my hon. friend from Halifax, who believes that that cannot be done. I believe that a settlement will be arrived at as the result of the present negotiations. I do not say anything about the treaty of 1818; I believe that the plain language in which it is drawn leaves very little room for doubt as to the intention of the parties at the time it was ratified. Against the plain words of a statute or treaty no interpretation can be sought. The trouble with the United States is that at the time the treaty was made that country did not and could not then see the consequences of