

terests, but he did not know that this was necessary, because it was probably amply secured through the right of veto.

The privileges in question once secured, we would enter into the struggle for supremacy and to obtain the carrying trade of the world, with just such restrictions as we chose to place on our tonnage. Under such conditions he did not hesitate to affirm that we would be able to outstrip all other nations in this particular industry, if not in connection with anything else. He did not cast the slightest reflections on the Government. He thought that they had done all they could in this relation, being actuated by a sincere desire to benefit the country as far as was in their power, his sole object being to assist them in attaining this desirable end; and he felt that until such privileges as he had mentioned were obtained, their efforts in this direction would be impeded. If it could be pointed out to him that what he proposed would in any way at all injure, instead of helping them in this relation, they would find him most willing to take any course to aid them in any possible direction which had in view the accomplishment of what was desirable in the interests of all parts of the country, and what the people of the section from which he came felt was absolutely necessary to ensure the prosperity of the Maritime Provinces.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said he had listened to the hon. gentleman's remarks on this subject with great pleasure. He did not suppose there was a very serious difference between the hon. gentleman's views and his own as to the desire to assert and maintain the right this Parliament had to legislate on certain subjects. He did not think it desirable that the question now before the House should at the present time be discussed at any length, or that it was wise for this House to pass strong resolutions asserting a principle upon which there might be some difference of opinion with the Imperial Government. The British Parliament had the Shipping Bill under consideration at present, and the Canadian Government were in correspondence with the Imperial authori-

Mr. PALMER.

ties on the subject. He put it to the hon. gentleman if he did not think it was wiser to avoid pressing the matter upon the attention of the House. He might depend upon it the views he had enunciated now and on previous occasions would be thoroughly represented, and every effort made to have the Shipping Bill placed on such a footing as would be satisfactory to this country and other parts of the empire. We must remember that the British Agents look after our shipping in foreign ports, and we must take care in asserting our independence of Imperial legislation we do not throw ourselves outside the pale of that protection it must have in foreign countries. We are not in a position to defend our own shipping. That is done by the Mother Country, and we must not seek to put our own shipping in a more favourable position than that of the Mother Country. As far as we could accomplish the placing of our own shipping on the best possible footing, and maintain that intimate relationship with the Imperial Government that was absolutely natural from a moral as well as a business point of view, this Government would do it, and he asked the hon. gentleman to withdraw his resolution and leave the matter in the hands of the Administration.

Mr. PALMER thanked the First Minister for the manner in which he had treated the question; he was quite willing to be guided by what the hon. gentleman had said, as he would be advocating his own cause very badly if he did not do exactly as the hon. gentleman suggested. He would like the hon. gentleman to state, however, if he did not think that it was the duty of the British Government to protect all Canadians.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE—Certainly.

Mr. PALMER stated that the Imperial Government protected our shipping, and that we were quite willing, if necessary, to sacrifice ourselves on behalf of the Mother Country at any moment.

Mr. MILLS wished to call the attention of the House to the fact that a vessel upon the lakes, where the Canadian Government exercised the sole right of legislation, when she sailed