FISHERIES COMMISSION.

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The arguments supporting this contention were dealt with by Lord Salisbury in a calm and masterly reply. Her Majesty's Government declined to review the proceedings of the Commission, and stood by the judgment of the tribunal which both Governments had constituted, and to which the subjects in dispute had been solemnly referred under the treaty without appeal. The British Minister pointed out that a legitimate claim for compensation had been laid at fifteen millions of dollars, and although the Commission had reduced it nearly two-thirds, it was not consistent with the voluntary submission of their Case to decisive arbitration that they should question the result. Respecting the necessity for unanimity, Lord Salisbury established clearly that the judgment of a majority of the Commissioners was undoubtedly contemplated by the treaty. and was in undisputable accord with the standard authorities governing international arbitrations. An incident occurring about . the eleventh hour afforded the American Secretary of State an additional plea in arrest of payment. It was the occurrence at Fortune Bay in Newfoundland. Several fishermen from Gloucester had been forcibly prevented from fishing by the inhabitants, because of their operations being contrary to existing Provincial laws by which British subjects were restrained. Secretary Evarts adopted the strange view that United States citizens could fish as they pleased, and that any restrictions imposed on their pursuit by municipal authority was an unwarrantable interference with privileges acquired by the treaty. Lord Salisbury replied that the parties to the treaty enjoyed common rights, and that United States citizens could not be privileged participants.

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Ultimately, the American Minister at London received instructions to offer the amount of the award to Lord Salisbury, if Her Majesty's Government thought fit to accept it under protest. It was accepted. The money has been apportioned as follows :--

Receiver-General of Canada	
Newfoundland	975,000
Retained by Imperial Government for expenses	137,500

The United States Government has since expressed further dissatisfaction by giving notice to terminate the fishery articles of the Treaty of Washington in 1885, and by claiming damages for loss sustained by the American fishermen concerned in the affair at Fortune Bay last year. This claim forms the subject of an opportune report by Mr. W. F. Whitcher, who points out that the claimants were seining herrings from the shore when molested, which