

perous and the most happy people on the face of the globe. The very country in which we live conduces to vigor, industry and self reliance. We are well governed, the laws faithfully administered, and civil and religious liberty secured to all. Therefore if we are true to ourselves, if we are true to this New Dominion let us enter into closer bonds with the Mother Country the cradle and nursery of freedom, civilization and justice, who will not suffer us to be wronged or oppressed; and if we are called upon to give up in her interests a portion of our inheritance let us do so cheerfully, an inheritance which she herself has given us. Before sitting down I must say that all English statesmen however great their talents, however carefully they may have looked to Imperial interests, yet in dealing with the United States in the matter of colonial boundaries and other questions affecting the Colonies, have always manifested too great a wish to accede to American demands, and have been too much influenced by American bluster and too ready to sacrifice colonial interests. With regard to San Juan Island that question has been left to the arbitration of a disinterested monarch, and altho' the Americans have pertinacity on their side we have justice on our side. When that Western boundary line was settled the only ship channel known was the one claimed by us, the existence of two channels was not known and the one now claimed by the Americans was not then used by the only navigators of these waters the Hudson Bay Company. In all justice San Juan ought to belong to us, it is closer to our shores and of more importance to us than to the Americans. We have occupied it with farm and fishing stations from 1851 to the present day and America never laid claim before 1855, and took forcible possession of it in 1858. On the navigation of the St. Lawrence I do not feel competent to express an opinion, the question being governed by international law and by commercial policy, but I wish to say this much, that whatever brings trade and traffic through this country deserves our support and encouragement as it must contribute to our revenue and importance by showing that we have the best route and highway for traffic through our country.

Hon. Mr. NORTHUP—The question now before us has already been so thoroughly discussed in the Legislature of this Dominion and elsewhere perhaps nothing further of interest can be said upon the subject. I will ask the attention of the House for a very short time to make a few remarks from a Nova Scotia

stand point. The fishery interest was very successful during the Reciprocity Treaty, and we have ever been most desirous for its renewal. In the present Treaty we have more, inasmuch as during the old Treaty we stood on equal footing, not so now, as we can build and outfit our vessels for 25 per cent. less than the Americans and are nearer the fishing grounds, and these are indeed great advantages, and to compete successfully with us they must either get their vessels built or outfitted with us, and this would be to our great benefit, or they must get a very large bounty from their Government. Our fisheries produced last year about five million dollars a larger sum than any previous year, and under the present Treaty must continue to increase. The hon. gentleman from Richibucto stated that the consumer paid the duty on mackerel. I contend it is not so, the Americans largely supply their own market, and their own and our fishermen may be said to fish side by side and carry them to the same market and realize the same price, but our fishermen have to pay a duty of \$2 per barrel on their catch. Our coal owners hoped to have the duty taken off or much reduced; that trade is not now yielding a fair return, and they think they have great cause to complain of the action of the other branch of this Legislature in sweeping away last session what was termed "the protective tariff, while negotiations were going on at Washington by the Commissioners upon an offer made by the United States Commissioners to admit coal, salt, and lumber free. So soon as the American heard of the passage that resolution, they withdrew their offer. Of this there can be no doubt, as it was clearly stated by the Minister of Justice in his place in the Commons. We see that the Americans have taken the duty off tea and coffee, and are paving the way for a cheap breakfast, so we cannot suppose they will long submit to have the fuel that cooks the breakfast taxed. It is the last article that should be subject to a tax. Lumbering operations are carried on to a large extent with us, and those interested hoped to have had the duty taken off, but notwithstanding the duty, we sell largely to the United States and this interest never was carried on as successfully as now, and new establishments are going up in different parts of the Province. Our farmers expected to have agricultural products free as heretofore as under the old Treaty, they found a good market there. I knew a friend of mine in Cornwallis, to have raised 500 bushels of potatoes off one acre of ground, which he sold at one dollar per bushel cash in his cellar. Is it