

5. Has the United States any right, and, if so, what right, of protection of property in the fur seals frequenting the islands of the United States in Behring Sea, when such seals are found outside of the ordinary three-miles limit?

The submission of these five principal points to arbitration smoothed over the difficulties which at one time threatened hostilities, and gave the Minister of Marine and Fisheries much responsible work, several visits to Washington and in the end an opportunity to gain a more than national reputation. No doubt, if Mr. Tupper succeeds in his presentation of the case for Canada, he will receive the honour of Knighthood and few will be found to say that his Queen could confer the compliment upon a more deserving and representative Young Canadian. Hitherto the Minister's career has been more or less unpretentious. He is not fond of publicity and never works for effect. This has been clearly shown in his management of a Department in which the Opposition, with all pardonable eagerness, have never been able to find a flaw, and which runs so smoothly that the public hardly ever hears of it, unless some inter-national question comes to the front.

Our little troubles with Newfoundland have also taxed Mr. Tupper's energy and skill. Incidentally it helped to bring him before the public of Toronto and Ontario in a most favourable light. It was during the crisis of the difficulties, when our friends in the ancient colony were imposing heavy duties upon Canadian products, favouring American articles, and hampering Canadian fishermen, while our Government had revived a duty formerly imposed upon Newfoundland fish, that the Minister of Marine and Fisheries was invited by the Toronto Young Men's Conservative Association to deliver an address in that city. As President of the Association at that time, the writer, of course, heard the address, the reception given to the Minister, and knew something of its after effect. The audience was enthusiastic, but that might, of course, be caused by political sympathy. The speaker's sentences, however, did more than merely enthuse the hearers,—they were remembered. Mr. Tupper has a ringing and fervent style, somewhat like Sir Charles Tupper's is said to have been in the days when he used his well-known vigour and made his trenchant, hammer-like blows fall, without mercy, upon the opponent of Conservatism who might have had the courage to meet him in debate.