

by the Convention of 1818 for the regulation of the fisheries; and as by a letter of the 13th February, 1836, from Lord Palmerston, it is stated that it does not appear that the Government of the United States has any adequate means of preventing the encroachments of the American fishermen above referred to, it is his Lordship's opinion that the only way in which the British rights of fishery can be effectually maintained is by the presence of a British sloop of war; you will, therefore, during the fishery season, and from time to time, as it may appear to you to be necessary, send a vessel of war accordingly to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, with instructions to the commander to enforce the stipulations of the 1st Article of the Convention of 1818. It may be added that the American Government has shown every disposition, and has instructed their collectors to enjoin the masters, owners, and others engaged in the fishery, to observe strictly the limits assigned for taking, drying, and curing fish, under the Convention of 1818."

6. In this state of things the Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, known as the Reciprocity Treaty, was signed at Washington on the 5th of June, 1854. By the 1st Article the fishing rights enjoyed by the United States in respect to Newfoundland and Labrador under the Convention of 1818, were extended with modifications not now material to Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. It was agreed that the Reciprocity Treaty should take effect from the passage of certain necessary laws by the Imperial Parliament and the British Provincial Legislatures concerned, and should then continue in force ten years, and further until the expiration of twelve months from notice of termination by either of the Contracting Parties.

Hertslet, vol. ix,
pp. 993 *et seq.*

7. The Imperial Act 18 Vict. cap. 3, giving effect to the Reciprocity Treaty, contained the following provision:—

Hertslet, vol. x,
p. 654.

"I. All Acts of Parliament and Laws which operate to prevent the provisions of the said Treaty from taking full effect shall, so far as they so operate, be suspended and of no effect during the continuance of the said Treaty."

8. The United States last year gave notice that the Reciprocity Treaty would expire on the 17th of