

are bound to assume that the president would treat that question judicially without consideration of what concessions we might make. However, the Minister of Finance would lead the House and the country to believe that the judicial interpretation of that law by the president depended on our giving the United States concessions on these 13 items, which, I do not think is very complimentary to the president in his judicial capacity. I am bound to believe that it would not have influenced the president to any extent; but, as the minister has said, he interpreted that law as a judge would interpret it if he were on the bench. Consequently, all the concessions have been on our side, and we have received no concessions in return, and I believe the country will reach the same conclusion that I have, that this is practically a give-away on our part all along the line. I was in hopes that on some important lines in which it would be of advantage for us to have the American market, such as grain, dairy products and animals, they would have given us some concessions, but there is no mention whatever made of them. In regard to pulpwood, the situation is the same as it was before. If we impose an export duty on pulpwood, they are liable to increase their duty correspondingly. I have not much to say on the matter, because we are not in a position to judge as to what we do get, until we know what our importations of the various articles named have been from the United States, and from other countries, and what the reduction in the revenue is likely to be as a result of the reduced duties. There are many other important questions involved which ought to be carefully considered, and which the minister assures there will be an opportunity to consider. I wish to make one more observation. The hon. minister said that there was a time when our pilgrimages were to Washington, but that this had been reversed. It seems to me, from what has come out in the press regarding the good offices of the editor of the Toronto 'Globe' in disabusing the minds of the American government of false impressions, that he must have been sent to Washington by this government.

Mr. FIELDING. Will my hon. friend permit me to say that I did not treat that question seriously when it was presented by the hon. member for Leeds and Grenville (Mr. J. D Reid); but if my hon friend is serious, let me say that there is no shadow of foundation for the suggestion that that gentleman was sent to Washington by the government.

Mr. J. D. REID. Then he must have told an untruth.

Mr. SPROULE.

Mr. FIELDING. No, I am sure that Mr. Macdonald will not say that the government sent him.

Mr. SPROULE. He at least endeavoured to leave the impression on the country that he had accomplished something and had done some substantial good. It is unlikely that he would go down there on his own mere motion, without suggestion or advice from some source, and the most natural source would be either the Prime Minister or the Minister of Finance. The question is suggested to me, was he at Albany as one of the plenipotentiaries?

Mr. FIELDING. There were many newspaper correspondents at Albany, and Mr. Macdonald was one of them. What does my hon. friend mean by asking if he was one of the plenipotentiaries?

Mr. SPROULE. I mean did he take part in the discussions?

Mr. FIELDING. Certainly not, in any shape or form.

Mr. SPROULE. I am bound to accept the hon. minister's statement, but there is a different impression left on the country from what appears in the 'Globe' itself. I have nothing more to say at present, except that I do not think the hon. Minister of Finance was too courteous towards the hon. member for South Simcoe (Mr. Lennox) when he asked if, in the event of these negotiations being carried to a successful conclusion, and along the lines the Minister of Finance anticipated, it would be necessary to have them ratified by parliament before they became law.

Mr. FIELDING. I am placing on the table in the usual form a resolution to be moved in Committee of Ways and Means, upon which a Bill will be founded; so that this thing cannot be done without the consent of parliament. But, in accordance with the custom of our tariffs, the moment the resolutions are placed on the table they take effect, subject to the ratification of parliament later on.

Mr. SPROULE. I am speaking of an incident that occurred last week, when the hon. member for South Simcoe asked if any concessions that might be made would require to be sanctioned by parliament, and the minister gave him no advice.

Mr. FIELDING. When the question was asked by the hon. member for South Simcoe some days ago, no arrangement had been made, and it would have been very impolitic to have made any statement. I certainly had no intention of being discourteous to the hon. gentleman. As this matter is not to be disposed of at once, if any hon. gentleman desires to move the ad-