

or empire, because this country asks that its own shall not be trespassed upon. We need no treaty aid. It is Canada that needs it, not the United States.

We cannot be expected to make a treaty that will aid Canada in her avowed policy of destroying, as far as she can, our deep sea fisheries, nor can we reasonably be asked to abandon our rights in order to effect that purpose, nor will Congress consent to legislate that purpose into effect.

Since writing the foregoing, Mr. Bayard's proposals for an arrangement of details, under the Treaty of 1818, that will produce a harmonious co-operation of the two governments, and supply our fishermen with fixed rules in relation to its clauses, has been published.

This fair proposal was rejected last autumn by the British Ministry, and a counter proposal made that we should purchase certain rights of them.

There is one pertinent answer. We do not desire to buy what Great Britain thus offers to sell, nor do we consider it worth buying. We will not buy what is our own. Great Britain is hard to convince of these facts, but she may rely upon it that the people consider the continuance of the fishery, under its flag, as of some importance. Great Britain may evade or dally with the very candid proposal of Mr. Bayard for harmonious living under the present treaty; but in the end it is the issue she must meet, and meanwhile, so long as our commerce is interrupted and preyed on by Canada, such retaliation as Congress has enacted or may enact will be relied on for our just defense.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES L. WOODBURY.