

in order to its proper sustenance and development. True, it is sometimes a very profitable business, but at the best it is most precarious, and great loss of life, as well as property, has often to be chronicled. I come from a fish producing country, one which stands perhaps the highest in the Dominion, in this respect, when its population is considered, and I am pleased to endorse all that my hon. friend has said as to the necessity which exists for the establishing of harbors of refuge along the north shore of Prince Edward Island. Such harbors would often prevent sad loss of life, and I think I may truly say that the want of such harbors has caused, during the last year, the sacrificing of some half-dozen lives of persons known to me personally, who were lost in the fisheries on that shore. Such calamities frequently happen and they are incidental to the prosecution of our fisheries, and they occur most frequently in those localities near the shore, where the fish are chiefly to be found. One hon. gentleman said something about a reciprocity treaty, and I may remark that I am pleased the Dominion Government have said nothing about it in the Speech from the Throne, and I believe any step in that direction should emanate from the United States. My opinion is that in consequence of the abrogation by the United States of the reciprocity treaty, this country is developing itself, and that many industries which otherwise would not have existed, are now being prosecuted. We now feel a certain confidence in ourselves and know that we can exist without reciprocal trade with the United States. But while we have taken no steps in this matter, I understand that many in the United States already see the advantage of further reciprocal trade with us; their eyes are open to the necessity of giving them markets for their coal in the west. Therefore I contend that any suggestion in the direction of reciprocity should come from the United States; such a treaty would beneficially affect our coal, lumber, wood, and the products of our mines, and I believe our Government would feel disposed to give favorable consideration to the suggestion, if it were made. I will now say a few words with regard to the apology of the hon. Senator from Halifax for the policy pursued

by the Government of Nova Scotia in reference to the Eastern Extension Railway; and I do not wonder that he found it necessary to offer an apology for such an extraordinary and abject surrender of valuable property. The hon. gentleman, however, endeavored to find a reason for it, in what he styled the "outrageous demands made by the Dominion Government, or the Minister of Railways." It appears to me that such a view cannot be fairly taken; the Local Government have certainly surrendered a valuable possession, the revenue from which they estimated equal to \$120,000 a year—taking the Pictou branch and Eastern Extension together. In their time of necessity, some years ago, the Nova Scotia Government, when struggling for life, pledged themselves to build a railway extending through the island of Cape Breton. We now see them throwing over the island of Cape Breton with no pledge at all being exacted from the Dominion Government to extend that railway through the island; but I deny that the hon. gentleman from Halifax has any right to say that the Dominion Government, or the Minister of Railways, demanded anything outrageous of the Local Government. I was opposed to the Pictou branch being handed over to the Eastern Extension to aid in the building of a road to the Straits of Canso, but it was the understanding then that a proper tariff would be made over it, and that it should be properly equipped. The Dominion Government asked no more than the terms of the contract; they required no more from the Local Government than the contract called for, that is to say a road properly equipped, extending to the Straits of Canso, with a proper tariff; a tariff no more—if I understand it aright—than that at present existing on the Pictou branch.

HON. MR. POWER—That is what I said.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—A proper tariff would bring in \$50,000 or \$60,000 profit every year.

HON. MR. POWER—No, it would not.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—The hon. gentleman from Halifax sometimes gets