

not a great deal to do in winter; they have horses and sleighs, and many a man would be glad to have an opportunity of earning \$1 a day in storing ice during the winter time. Another item is bait. A man may have a farm near the seaside partly cleared, but not sufficiently to support his family, and if he had the privilege of cutting ice and selling it to the Americans, and also the privilege of taking bait for them, he would add to the resources of his family, and in due time would become a wealthy man. These are considerations which weigh in favor of relaxing the conditions of the Treaty of 1818. I would not abandon that treaty by any means. It is a strong rock of defence for Canada to fall back upon in case of any of those capricious circumstances which we know, to our cost, so often occur in the United States, particularly when elections are at hand, either presidential or congressional. One of the great difficulties we have to contend with, whether it be in connection with Behring's Sea or the fisheries on the Atlantic coast, is the fact of the President and his Ministry not being in touch with the House and with the Senate. Unhappily the Senate possess a power which very often induces them to upset very promising treaties. It is not a new thing by any means. We saw it happen only a few years ago. We were in hopes that our difficulties were in fair course of settlement, but we were disappointed by the action of the United States Senate. I have read recently of an instance of the same kind which occurred during the time when Mr. Rush was Minister to England and Mr. Munroe was President. At that time there was some outstanding grievances between the United States and England. One of them was with reference to the suppression of the slave trade. I suppose the Americans were then, as afterwards, very often indisposed to allow the right of search, and therefore would not permit British cruisers to stop and search their schooners on the coast of Africa, and there was besides a question with regard to trade between the United States and the West Indies, and another question at the same time with regard to the fisheries of New Brunswick. The two countries were anxious that these questions should be discussed and settled. The President sent a protest from Washington to England, and Mr. Rush was there representing the American Government, and the

British Government appointed Mr. Huskinson and Mr. Canning. They discussed these questions between them, and succeeded in making arrangements which were approved of by Mr. Rush, approved of by the British Government and approved by President Monroe; yet, when they were sent to the Senate they were thrown out. The Senate insisted on altering several words in the first clause, and this clause happened to be one which had been originally sent over for the approval of the English by the President himself. I will not attribute any unworthy motive to the Senate in this matter; I only point to it as an instance of the difficulties we have to encounter. I have detained the House longer than I anticipated; at the same time, I felt it necessary that an opinion should be expressed on this subject, and I do hope, as an Englishman jealous of the honor of my country, that she will act up to her standing in regard to this, without at all expecting that it will lead to war between the two countries, or that it will lead to great diplomatic difficulties. The case is so exceedingly simple in itself, also so important to Canada that her independence in this matter should be established, that I do think our Government and our Parliament cannot be too precise and clear in their expression of opinion on this Behring's Sea question.

HON. MR. WARK—I do not intend to discuss the Speech, but I want to make a remark with respect to what has fallen from the hon. gentleman from Ottawa, with regard to the contrast between the conduct of England when two American citizens were taken by force from a British vessel, and what he looks upon as the dilatory course pursued now by the Government on this Behring's Sea question. At the time referred to, England was on the very best terms with France. Napoleon was an ally of England, and while the contest was going on in the United States, if England had gone with them she would have acknowledged the independence of the Southern States.

At that time Russia was looking on with indifference, perhaps with pleasure, at the contest that was going on. The British Government is very differently situated now. France is jealous of the position that England occupies in Egypt. Russia