interests of our fishermen as recognized by Great Britain in the Treaty of Peace, would be preferable to any measure that might bear the character of opposition or retaliation. But without an admitted basis of principle and right distinctly formulated, as were the three rules laid down for the Geneva Arbitration, and to which Great Britain wisely gave her adhesion, it would seem idle to expect a satisfactory measure of justice either from negotiation or arbitration. Our recent negotiations have only served to make more clear the fact that the two governments look at the rights of our fishermen from different stand-points; and without an agreement in advance upon the rules by which the arbitrators are to be guided, an award would probably dissatisfy the defeated party, and serve as little to commend arbitration to thonghtful English or Americans as the American claim for indirect damages at Geneva, or the award of the Belgian umpire at Halifax.

There should be no difficulty in agreeing on a basis for either negotiation or arbitration, in the shape of rules declaring the right of our fishermen in language that even our Canadian friends can understand, when it is remembered that their violation of the Treaty of 1818 has given us a right to abrogate that treaty; and that its abrogation would restore to force Article III. of the Treaty of Peace in 1783, the operation of which was suspended by the Treaty of 1818, but which would revive in its original force were the Treaty of 1818 abrogated; precisely, the latter treaty, as after being suspended by the adoption of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854, was revived by its termination in 1866; and after being again suspended by the Treaty of 1871, was again restored by its termination in 1885. If our British friends should have a doubt upon this point, and be inclined to think that our regard for the sanctity of treaties will induce us to pardon their violation, or that the exploded suggestion that our ancient fishery rights recognized and defined at the peace, were lost by the war of 1812, a glance at the law and the facts, at the testimony of history and the opin-