

10,000 men by their bounties in these North American waters, and it is most creditable to our fishermen, that in the face of these bounties and of yours they have been able, by strict economy and hardy endurance, to wrestle for a share of these ocean treasures, to maintain their families and increase their numbers.

A gentleman asked—But had we not the right to fish on the Banks of Newfoundland before the treaty?

Mr. HOWE.—Yes, but not in the great bays of Newfoundland, and along the coast lines where the people of Newfoundland, who frequent the banks but little, catch all their codfish. Some of these bays are twenty or thirty miles in width, and deeply indent the island, being broken into numerous fiords or smaller bays, where fish are plenty. By the treaty American fishermen can now use all these bays as well as those upon the coasts of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. The command of the inshore fisheries gives to your people the opportunity to supply themselves with bait, whether they resort to the banks or fish around the coast.

I trust I have thus shown you, Mr. Chairman, that the fisheries are inexhaustible, and of inestimable value; that free competition does not lower the prices, and that your fishermen and the French have special aids to stimulate their industry. But