

Aside, however, from the encomiums of the press, the expectations of his friends, and the fears of those enemies whom every public man must anticipate meeting sooner or later, Mr. Tupper proved a most successful minister. Assuming office at a delicate period in our international relations, he devoted himself to his department and to the difficult questions which have since been constantly springing up, with more than praiseworthy diligence. Mr. Cleveland had recently issued his curious Retaliation manifesto; the Treaty negotiated with infinite pains by Mr. Bayard, Secretary of State, the British minister and Sir Charles Tupper had been unceremoniously rejected by the U. S. Senate, and the American press and utterances of American politicians were filled with undisguised wrath over Canada having the courage to fall back upon and resolutely enforce the Treaty of 1818, which the abrogation of the Treaty of Washington had brought into renewed operation. The action of the Dominion under the circumstances, the policy of the Government, and the administration of the Marine and Fisheries Department were all alike dignified, firm and yet conciliatory. A *modus vivendi* was voluntarily offered by Canada so as not to in any way injure the season's work of the Gloucester fishermen; but the wholesale claims of the American Government were promptly rejected and the persistent efforts of American poachers in our Atlantic fishing grounds resisted and finally checked by an organised coast patrol service. It will be remembered how extraordinary in their nature these claims were. Though the Treaty of 1818 expressly prohibited American vessels from fishing within the three-miles limit of the coast and was very explicit regarding the reasons for which foreign fishing vessels might seek a Canadian harbour—buying bait, transshipping fish, &c., being expressly excluded from the rights conferred:—yet the American Government claimed all these privileges, and their fishermen endeavoured to take them forcibly or stealthily, as the case might be. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries nipped this process in the bud, and the people of Canada have every reason for congratulation in having had a vigorous well-informed man in control of its maritime policy during this trying period.

In no other department of our Government is a strong man and a patriotic Canadian more required than in the one controlled for the past four years by Hon. Charles H. Tupper. Knowledge of Cana-