

mination of the treaty, the average annual trade with the United States was \$75,160,312, being an annual increase of 59 per cent. over the treaty period. Though the trade showed a decrease in 1886 as compared with 1885, it was, with the exception of the four preceding years and of 1873, 1874 and 1875, higher than at any previous time.

347. According to the above figures, the so-called balance of trade has been in favour of the United States since Confederation to the extent of \$131,531,490. Balance of trade in favour of U. S.

348. In July, 1868, a resolution was passed in the United States House of Representatives, appointing a committee to visit Prince Edward Island and obtain all necessary information with reference to a reciprocal treaty with that Province. The committee visited the Island, and a draft treaty was drawn up and submitted to the Imperial Government, which, however, declined to take any steps at that time. Negotiations between P. E. I. and U. S.

349. Various propositions were made at different times by the Dominion Government with reference to a new treaty, but with no result. At the time when the Washington Treaty was being prepared, endeavours were made by the British Commissioners to settle the fishery question on the basis of reciprocity, but to this the United States would not consent. Propositions for a new treaty.

350. On 17th March, 1874, Sir Edward Thornton and the Honourable George Brown were appointed Joint Plenipotentiaries on the part of Her Majesty to negotiate a treaty of fisheries, commerce and navigation with the Government of the United States. Negotiations were commenced at Washington on 28th March following, and were continued Failure of negotiations in 1874.