

15th January, 1856.

HIS EXCELLENCY CHARLES HENRY DARLING, ESQUIRE, Governor.

upon the Export Trade of the Colony by the comparative increase in the quantity of our Staple Produce which has latterly found a market in the ports of the Union.

When the unfavorable circumstances to which I have adverted shall have ceased to operate, we may confidently hope that these advantages will become permanent and more generally diffused ; not only promoting the interests of Commerce and Capital, but substantially ameliorating the condition of our Fishermen and other industrial classes of the Population.

Immediately upon the receipt of Her Majesty's approval of the Treaty Act, which was transmitted to the Local Government, with no longer delay than unavoidably resulted from the connection of the measure with the Foreign Relations of the Mother Country, the necessary steps were taken for giving practical effect to its provisions ; and I shall cause to be laid before you a communication which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, placing me in possession of the Act of the President of the United States by which those provisions are declared to be in force in that Country.

The efforts of the Government have been directed to a reduction of the heavy burthen which, for many years past, has been entailed upon the Public Funds under the designation of " Relief of the Poor."

But notwithstanding the favorable results of the Shore Fishery, and a decided improvement in the Potato Crop throughout the Colony, the rise in the cost of other Food has presented a serious obstacle to that immediate and effectual reform of the system, which might otherwise have been accomplished. Care has, however, been taken, in the allotment of pecuniary assistance, to promote the two-fold object of rendering the Expenditure as reproductive as circumstances would allow ; and of averting the debasing influences of a purely gratuitous relief, by affording timely employment in public work to those whose destitute condition, if not thus assisted, there was good reason to anticipate.

By a Despatch from the Secretary of State, which will be laid before you, you will learn that Her Majesty's Government are anxious to establish a system by which the cost of erecting and main-