

and by a recent despatch from the Duke of Newcastle, his Grace expresses "much satisfaction that this question has been so fully taken in hand by the Government, with a reasonable prospect of a satisfactory issue," and promises all the assistance Her Majesty's Government can at present give, "by consulting the law officers of the Crown in England, respecting the legal steps to be taken to assert the Crown rights." With that view, his Grace required further information, and it has been furnished. When the opinions of the law officers of the Crown are received they will be laid before you, along with various documents connected with the subject. In the meantime, I shall only say, that fulfilling a duty to the public, in protecting the fishery reserves, on which many parties may have ignorantly encroached, it has been the anxious wish of the Government, as it appeared to have been that of the late Assembly, to deal with this question in a just and equitable manner.

I shall have soon to bring under your notice matters of a local nature, among others, the proposed withdrawal of the military; but I shall do so as usual by message; and I will be happy at all times to communicate with you when you may desire it.

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