

No. 181.

(Telegram.)

OTTAWA, 5th April, 1892.

ARTHUR P. SILVER, Esq.,
Halifax.

The imperial government has communicated our proposal for a *modus vivendi* to the government of Newfoundland. It is practically that we resume the *statu quo*, 1889, pending a friendly discussion by representatives of both countries at the colonial office, pending also a decision of the judicial committee of the privy council upon the existing bait regulations.

We have no reply yet from Newfoundland.

CHARLES H. TUPPER.

No. 182.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF TRADE,
HALIFAX, 16th April, 1892.

To the Honourable C. H. TUPPER,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward you the following resolution passed at a meeting of this board held on the 6th inst. :—

That whereas, the Halifax Board of Trade is deeply sensible of the grave injury to trade that results from the hostile legislative enactment between the governments of Newfoundland and Canada, and of the great loss and inconvenience that are inflicted on both countries by the present position of affairs, be it resolved: (1) That the Halifax Board of Trade urge on the government of Canada by special memorial the desirability of arranging, if possible, a *modus vivendi* under the terms of which the hostile tariffs and enactments of both countries should be held in abeyance until sufficient time is given to enable diplomatic conferences to adjust the whole difficulty.

(2.) That the Halifax Board of Trade is of opinion that the Bond convention between the government of Newfoundland and the United States would affect Canadian fishery interests most injuriously, in that the produce of the Canadian fisheries would compete in the American markets with the produce of the Newfoundland fisheries at an enormous disadvantage, represented by the severe duties exacted from produce of Canadian fisheries, from which the produce of Newfoundland fisheries would be exempt. And that the Halifax Board of Trade deem it desirable that the Canadian government should use every possible effort to prevent the Bond convention from being carried into effect.

(3.) That the Halifax Board of Trade should also memorialize the Canadian government to urge on the Newfoundland government the withdrawal of the Bait Act directed against Canadian fishing vessels, on the grounds that its enforcement is a violation of the pledge given by the government of Newfoundland, is opposed to the comity that should exist between colonies under the British flag, and is not a fair return for the port privileges which Newfoundland fishing vessels enjoy without restriction in the Canadian and Labrador coasts and their free admission to Canada's inshore fisheries.

I am your obedient servant,

CHARLES M. CREED,
Secretary, Halifax Board of Trade.

No. 183.

(Telegram.)

OTTAWA, 23rd April, 1892.

Sir J. S. WINTER,
St. Johns, Nfld.

Are United States vessels obtaining free licenses as last year?

CHARLES H. TUPPER.