



HARBOUR GRACE, Conception Bay, Newfoundland:—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, opposite Messrs. W. Dixon & Co's

Newfoundland Association

For the promotion of the Trade and Fisheries.

The under mentioned merchants assembled the 30th Nov., 1837, at the Office of Mess. Newman, Hunts, & Christophers, No. 12, *New Broad Street, London*, to discuss such measures as it may be desirable to adopt with reference to the high duties charged upon the Newfoundland Fish in Spain, Portugal, and Italy; viz.,

Mr. Js. M'Bride, Mr. Wm. Harrison,
F. Le Breton, E. Hunt,
T.H. Brooking, Samuel Job,
J. Christophers, R.F. Sweetman;
John Gosse,

and the said discussion having been concluded, Mr. Job suggested, that it might prove very advantageous, if those persons who are engaged in the Newfoundland Fisheries would form themselves into a Society for their protection.

The Meeting concurring in the suggestion, Mr. Job moved, that Mr. M'Bride take the Chair.

Seconded by Mr. Brooking, and carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Job:

That it is expedient that the Newfoundland merchants and others interested in the Trade and Fisheries, should be invited to form themselves into a Society for the protection of the Fishing, Trading, and Commercial interests of that Colony.

Seconded by Mr. Gosse, and carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Brooking:

That as soon as twenty merchants, engaged in the Newfoundland Trade, shall have joined the Society, it shall be deemed to be formed, under the title of the "Newfoundland Association."

Seconded by Mr. Edward Hunt, and carried unanimously.

Proposed and carried, *nem. con.*:

That Mr. Brooking and Mr. Christophers be requested to prepare Rules and Regulations for the Society. And that this meeting do now adjourn until Saturday, the 2d proximo, at 12 o'clock, then to take the Rules and Regulations into consideration.

At a meeting of merchants interested in the Trade and Fisheries of Newfoundland, held at No. 12, *New Broad Street, London*, on Saturday, the 2nd Dec., 1837, (in conformity with the Resolutions of the preliminary meeting, held at the same place on the 30th ult. recommending that a society should be established for the protection of the Trade and Fisheries,) present

Mr. James M'Bride, in the Chair,
T.H. Brooking, Mr. Edward Hunt,
John Christophers, T. N. Hunt,
John Gosse, Samuel Job,
Wm. Harrison, F. Le Breton,
R. F. Sweetman,

It was unanimously resolved to the following effect:

1st.—That the important interests of the Trade and Fisheries of Newfoundland have hitherto suffered materially from a want of co-operation by those engaged therein; and that the recent increase of the duty on Cod Fish in Portugal has demonstrated the paramount necessity of co-operation upon matters connected with their general welfare.

2d.—That a society, to be called the "NEWFOUNDLAND ASSOCIATION FOR THE TRADE AND FISHERIES," be established in London, and that the merchants and others resident in the United Kingdom, Newfoundland, and elsewhere, interested in the trade and fisheries, be invited to join the Association.

3d.—That the objects of the Association are to watch all proceedings in the British dominions and in Foreign countries which may either directly or indirectly affect the Newfoundland trade &

fisheries—to make representations to Government for the redress of any grievances—and to promote every object tending to the prosperity of all persons engaged in the trade and fisheries.

4th.—That the following Rules and Regulations be adopted for the government of the Association.

Individuals subscribing one pound or upwards annually, to be members, and to be entitled to attend General Meetings, and to give one vote.

Firms subscribing two pounds or upwards, to be members, and to be entitled to attend General Meeting, and to give two votes.

Firms subscribing three pounds or upwards annually, to be entitled to three votes.

No individual, whatever be the amount of his subscription, to be entitled to give more than one vote, and no firm to give more than three votes.

5th.—A Fund to be immediately raised for the permanent support of the Association by Donations and annual subscriptions, at the discretion of members and others.

6th.—All annual subscriptions to be for the year commencing 1st January and ending the 31st December, to be paid in London before the 1st of February of every year.

7th.—That the following gentlemen form a Provisional committee for the purpose of collecting subscriptions, of altering, or abolishing any of the Rules and Regulations, and of making the necessary arrangements for balloting for members to serve on the first General Committee: viz.,

Mr. Brooking, Mr. Job,
Christophers, Le Breton,
Gosse, M'Bride,
W. Harrison, G. R. Robinson,
E. Hunt, Sweetman,
T. N. Hunt,

And that Mr. Brooking and Mr. Christophers be requested to act as joint Honorary Secretaries, *pro tem.*

8th.—That the ballot for the appointment of the first General committee shall be taken in London, on the first Thursday in February 1838, at such time and place as may be appointed by the Provisional committee; and that the names of members proposed to form the General committee be forwarded to the Secretary on or before the second Thursday in January of every year.

9th.—No member except a merchant directly engaged in the trade and fisheries of British North America, is qualified to be a member of the General committee.

10.—The General committee so elected shall continue in office until the first Thursday in February of the ensuing year.

11th.—That the members resident at Greenock, Liverpool, Poole, Bristol, Dartmouth, Torquay, Teignmouth, Jersey, and Guernsey shall, at each place respectively, be at liberty to elect a "corresponding committee," the chairman of which shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the General committee in London, and be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Association. At any General meeting of members, any other places shall be admitted as branches of the Parent Association, if recommended by 20 members.

12.—That a General meeting of the members of the Association shall be held annually in London, on the first Thursday in February, to receive from the committee a report of their proceedings during the preceding 12 months; and to elect by ballot 13 members to form a General committee, for the management of the affairs of the Association in London, during the ensuing 12 months.

13th.—Members of the general committee who, at any time, may be in London shall have the power of calling an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members, on any urgent occasion, after consulting the members of the committee

who may be resident at the Out-ports—14 days' notice at least, to be given of any such Extraordinary general meeting.

14th.—It shall be the duty of the chairman of the corresponding committee at each Out-port, to notify the members resident within his district, of all general meetings of the Association.

15th.—At all meetings of the general committee in London, three to form a quorum.

16th.—All subjects discussed in committee, or at general meetings, shall be decided by ballot, if demanded by one member and seconded by another.

17th.—No member shall be entitled to vote, until one month after he shall be elected.

19th.—Any individual member, or firm, whose annual subscription shall continue unpaid for 12 months, shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Association, and not to be re-admitted except upon payment of a fine of £1 for every vote to which he, or the firm, may be entitled, in addition to the annual subscription.

20th.—Members resident beyond fifty miles of London, to be allowed to vote at all General Meetings, by proxy, if authorized by letter deposited with the Secretary. The proxy must be a Member of the Association.

21st.—The general committee shall meet in London on the first Thursday of each month, (or oftener by adjournment) and at the first meeting after their election, they shall appoint a chairman and Deputy Chairman, for the term of their remaining in Office.

22.—The Chairman, or, in his absence the Deputy Chairman with the consent of two other members of the committee, shall have the power to call a special meeting of the committee, whenever they may deem it absolutely necessary.

23.—The general committee will meet, during the first year at the Office of Messrs. Newman, Hunts, and Christophers, No. 12, *New Broad Street*; but thenceforward the committee shall provide such premises or Offices in London for the purpose of conducting the business of the association, as they may judge expedient.

24th.—It shall be in the discretion of the committee to provide maps & books for the use of the Association, but they shall not be removed from its office.

25th.—The committee shall likewise have power to annually appoint a Secretary, with such salary as they may consider equivalent to the services to be performed by him.

26th.—No Honorary Secretary shall receive, either directly or indirectly, any remuneration; but if any Honorary Secretary be appointed by a General Meeting of members, he shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the general committee for the ensuing twelve months.

27th.—The funds of the association to be under the control and management of the committee, who are to lay before the general meeting of members, in February of each year, a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditure of the association.

28th.—All drafts and Checks for the payment of money to be signed by two members of the committee (one of whom must be the chairman or of deputy chairman), and counter-signed by the secretary.

29th.—The association to have a common seal, and Mr. Brooking, and Mr. Christophers, are requested to decide upon the device. &c.

30th.—The general committee to open a correspondence with the chambers of commerce at St. John's, Newfoundland and Harbor Grace, and such other bodies and places as may be deemed advisable, inviting their co-operation and assistance.

31st.—That the preceding Rules and Regulations may be altered, or abolished by the Provisional committee, before the election of the "general committee" in

February next, and thenceforward only by the Members assembled at the Annual general meeting of the Association; notice in writing to be given to the Secretary by two or more Members proposing any alteration, or abolition of the Rules and Regulations, at least three months before next ensuing Annual Meeting, when the matter shall be discussed and determined.

32d.—No alteration, or abolition of any of the fundamental Rules of the Association shall be valid without the concurrence, by ballot, of at least two-thirds of the votes, giving at a general meeting of members.

33d.—That the Rules and Regulations shall be printed and distributed under superintendance of Mr. Brooking and Mr. Christophers.

34th.—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Brooking and Mr. Christophers, for the assistance they have already rendered in forming the Association.

35th.—That the thanks of this Meeting be given to Mr. M'Bride, for his able and impartial conduct in the chair

Donations in London, 2d December, 1837, towards defraying the expenses of the Association. } £

Annual Subscriptions for the year ending 21st December, 1838	
Messrs. Fryer, Gosse & Pack	£3 0 0
William Harrison, Esq.	1 0 0
Messrs. C. & E. Hunt, & Co.	3 0 0
Job, Bulley, & Co.	3 0 0
Kerrs & M'Bride,	3 0 0
Francis Le Breton, Esq.	1 0 0
Messrs. Newman, Hunts & Christophers	3 0 0
Robinson, Brooking, & Garland	3 0 0
R. F. Sweetman, Esq.	1 0 0

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE C. POULETT THOMSON,

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE, &c. &c. &c.

LONDON, 30th Nov., 1837.

SIR,—With reference to the interview which we (Deputies from several Ports Connected with the Newfoundland Fisheries) had the honour of with you on the 25th inst., we are desirous before leaving London to lay before you a few observations, which we consider may be in some degree useful in the further consideration of the subject of the discriminating duty on Fish in Spain, &c.

The nature of the business carried on in Newfoundland consists in the British merchant importing into that country the provisions clothing, fishing tackle, and other necessities requisite for the prosecuting of the Fishery, without the "regular" supply of which necessities the Fishery could not exist, and issuing them on credit to the fisherman in the winter and spring months for their actual subsistence to be paid for in the fish they may catch during the ensuing summer, at such a price as may be fixed when the aggregate catch of the Island is ascertained:—the propable value of fish at such foreign markets as may be open to British ships, regulating the price to be paid to the fisherman.

The merchant who has been at the risk of a large outlay of capital for supplies to the fisherman and exposed to the risk of its total loss, from the precariousness of the Fishery, has at further risk and outlay of additional capital, provided his own ships to load the fish, calculating on the advantages which he, as a ship-owner would derive, by carrying that fish to the Southern Ports of Europe, Brazil &c., on an equality at least with other nations.—Hence the merchants connected with the Fisheries are all very considerable ship-owners, who employ their vessels almost exclusively in that trade.

The Seal Fishery at Newfoundland is the main stay of the greater part of the