

SIR W. V. WHITEWAY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

DEAR LORD KNUTSFORD,

Hôtel Métropole, London, July 12, 1890.

ACCORDING to your request, I beg to enclose a memorandum which Mr. Harvey agrees with me as our suggestion in the matter of the United States question.

We therefore submit same for your consideration.

I am, &c.

The Right Hon. Lord Knutsford.

(Signed) W. V. WHITEWAY.

Enclosure in No. 5.

MEMORANDUM with regard to the UNITED STATES.

American vessels to have the privilege of purchasing bait at all times on same terms and in same quantities as Newfoundland vessels, and to have all privileges of touching and trading, selling fish, oil, &c., and getting supplies without other charges than light and harbour dues and customs dues, such as are levied on Newfoundland vessels similarly employed.

American vessels procuring bait from Newfoundland to give bonds, similar to bonds given by Newfoundland vessels, with like penalties; provision to be made for enforcing penalties in United States territory.

In return, United States to admit codfish, cod oil, seal oil, herrings, salmon, &c. from Newfoundland, the produce of Newfoundland fisheries, free of duty.

July 12, 1890.

No. 6.

SIR W. WHITEWAY to COLONIAL OFFICE.

MEMORANDUM respecting the DEVELOPMENT of the RESOURCES of NEWFOUNDLAND, and the GUARANTEE by HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT of a LOAN for that purpose to be raised by the GOVERNMENT of the COLONY.

THE "Handbook of Newfoundland" is furnished herewith, in which the resources of the Colony—agricultural, mineral, and forests—are referred to.

There has already been built about 120 miles of railroad, and a contract has been entered into for the construction of about 270 miles more, which, with about 150 miles additional, would open the lands referred to in the Handbook. The fisheries of Newfoundland, although a great source of continuous wealth, can only afford employment to a certain number, and therefore an increasing population must either emigrate or find other sources of industry. The large areas of land might be made a location for a thriving agricultural population of immigrants, and their introduction into the Colony would be of material advantage in instructing the people of the Colony in agricultural pursuits, for which their hereditary occupation of fishing has not qualified them, but the youth may be drawn off into the interior by example and inducements to settle there.

To develop this country requires an expenditure of capital which cannot be immediately remunerative, and there is comparatively a small population, say about 190,000, for opening up a country in extent equal to about England and Wales.

The Government and people are making strenuous efforts to accomplish this object, but they are still suffering from that policy which in the past dictated the action of the Imperial Government in keeping the Newfoundland fisheries as a nursery for British seamen, and preventing settlement in the Colony, and also from unfortunate treaties which have tended to crush the energies of a hardy race of men, and thwarted the progress of the island.

Whilst other British Colonies have received encouragement and pecuniary aid towards their development, Newfoundland has had to struggle against prohibitory and oppressive laws. It is now asked that Her Majesty's Government will make amends for the errors of past Governments, and aid in the Colony's development, not by advancing money from the Imperial Treasury, but only to guarantee a loan, say