

expedition, and also to make the requisite preparations for supplying, when the alteration is to be carried into operation, every facility, and using every proper caution, in order to give full effect to the proposed arrangement. Her Majesty's Government trusts, that the contemplated measures, involving as they do considerable additional expenditure, will prove beneficial to the public, and give satisfaction to these Colonies.

"The co-operation of the respective Legislatures is essential to the complete attainment of the advantages anticipated; I have therefore to desire that you will, on the opening of the next Session of the Legislature of your Government, submit the matter for their consideration, and invite them to co-operate in improving the Mail routes, and to afford such other facilities as may depend on those bodies. I have further to request, that you will endeavour, before their meeting, to collect the necessary information for the guidance of the Legislature, and that you will render every assistance in your power to further the views of Her Majesty's Government.

"I have the honor to be, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

"GLENELG."

Major General Sir JOHN HARVEY, K. C. B.

DUTIES ON SALTED PROVISIONS AND FLOUR.

"Downing Street, 5th March, 1838.

"SIR—I have the honor to transmit for your information and guidance the enclosed copies of a correspondence which has passed between the Board of Trade and my Department, respecting the proposed repeal of the Duties, now levied under Acts of the Imperial Parliament, on Salted Provisions and Wheat Flour, on importation into New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

"I have the honor, &c.

(Signed)

"GLENELG."

Major General Sir JOHN HARVEY, &c. &c. &c.

"Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,

"Whitehall, 11th January, 1838.

"SIR—I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a Petition from the Chamber of Commerce in New Brunswick, relative to the duties on Salted Provisions and Wheat Flour in that Colony; and I am to request that in drawing the attention of Lord Glenelg to this Petition, you will also place under his notice the new regulations of the Act of April, 1831, chap. 24, which was passed for the purpose of preparing for the readmission of the ships of the United States to a trade with our Colonies.

"In the second section of the Act referred to, Salted Provisions and Wheat Flour, as well as Wood and Lumber, are rendered free of duty in the two Canadas. But in the third section Wood and Lumber only are declared to be free in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

"The desire of the Lords of this Committee was to have extended to the three last named Colonies the exemption granted to the Canadas, but they refrained from doing so, because it was stated by the Secretary of State that the finances of those three Colonies required the continuance of duties on flour and provisions.

"The Lords of this Committee are aware of no Commercial grounds upon which they should avoid to place these five Northern Colonies upon the same footing; and therefore I am to request that you will move Lord Glenelg to take this subject into his consideration, and to acquaint their Lordships with his present opinion thereon.

"I am, &c.

(Signed)

"J. D. HUME."

JAMES STEPHEN, Esquire, &c. &c. &c.

"Downing Street, 5th March, 1838.

"SIR—I have laid before Lord Glenelg your Letter of the 11th January, enclosing a copy of a representation from the Chamber of Commerce at Saint John, New Brunswick, to the Lords of the Treasury, on the subject of the duties levied on Salted Provisions and Wheat Flour imported into that Province, and inquiring whether Lord Glenelg entertains any objection to the repeal of those duties in New Brunswick, as well as in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

"I am directed to remind you that so far back as the 6th April, 1835, the Secretary of State intimated to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade his acquiescence in their Lordship's proposal to repeal these duties. When, however, the local authorities became acquainted with the intentions of Her Majesty's Government, the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia pointed out two important objections to the measure, which were communicated to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade on the 12th August, 1835. The one was, that the extinction of these taxes would be almost destructive to the farming interests in that Province, in whose favor they operated as a bounty—and the other, that it would deprive the Colonial Government of the fund from which the heavy expense of the Customs Department was defrayed. It would consequently have become necessary to resort to the Provincial Legislature for other means of meeting that charge, and would have exposed the Executive Government of the Province to a very embarrassing discussion with the House of Assembly, with whom the expense of the Customs Establishment was, and still is a subject of frequent complaint and remonstrance.

"No objection has been made by the Governors of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to the repeal of these duties, and Lord Glenelg, therefore, sees no reason to prevent its execution in the