

9.—I shall direct to be laid before you a Despatch from the Secretary of State, relative to the firing of Fog Guns at Fort Amherst.

10.—The Colonial Secretary will also lay before you the draft of a proposed Act for the organization of a Volunteer force in Newfoundland, a Despatch relative to a Shipping Master, as well as Despatches on other subjects which I have adverted to.

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :*

*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :*

11.—I shall now refer to another matter which, although the last, is not the least in importance and which all of us are deeply interested in—the Fishery Question. I had expected before now to submit to you the result of the negotiations which have been going on between the Governments of England and France. I gave publicity to a verbal communication made to me by the Duke of Newcastle on his visit here. Since that time I have had no information further than a short Despatch from another of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, in the absence of the Duke, and in answer to an enquiry from me, announcing that "the Convention with France on the subject of the Fisheries is not yet finally concluded, but its terms are substantially agreed upon," and that he (the Secretary of State) hoped "shortly to be able" to inform me that it is completed, and to "send me a copy of the Document." I, therefore, apprehend that we must patiently wait for the information I have been promised, and which I am in daily expectation of receiving. I have no doubt that Documents will be laid before the Imperial Parliament relative to the Newfoundland Fisheries, which will, I am sure, be anxiously looked for, and perused by the people who are most interested in this question.

12—I shall be happy to co-operate with you on all subjects which may promote the interests of the Colony, and will not further occupy your time.

On motion of Mr. FUREY, seconded by Mr. McGRATH, :

*Resolved*,—That a Select Committee be appointed to prepare an Address of Thanks in reply to the Gracious Speech with which it has pleased His Excellency to open the present Session of the Legislature.

Select Committee to prepare Address of Thanks in reply to Governor's speech.

*Ordered*,—That Mr. Furey, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Casey, Mr. F. B. Carter, and Dr. Winter, do form the Committee.

Select Committee to prepare Address of Thanks in reply to Governor's speech.

The Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL gave notice, that on to-morrow he will move the House into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Colony.

Notice for Committee on state of the Colony.