

George's Bay, and that he, Mr. Forest, should warn the inhabitants, British Subjects, that they would not be allowed to fish in that locality next season, 1859."

Mr. Forest further informed me that on asking whether the Governor of Newfoundland has been apprised of the intentions of the French Government, His Excellency the French Commodore had answered in the negative;—not long afterwards, however, the Baron Le Noury wrote to me confirming Mr. Forrest's statement. Although his letter was not quite in an official form, yet, it was sufficiently so to justify a Proclamation being issued, principally to acquire information.—Advantage was taken of Her Majesty's Ships on this Station to circulate it along the Coasts of Newfoundland, and afterwards, H. M. Cutter "Netley" was despatched specially to St. George's Bay, with a letter from me to Mr. Forrest, the Magistrate; that letter, along with Mr. Forrest's reply, shall be laid before you.

Under such circumstances, all that the Governor or his Council could do, was to obtain information for the guidance of Her Majesty's Government, in order that they might adopt such steps as they deemed necessary to protect the just rights and privileges of the Queen's Subjects in Newfoundland; and that they will do so, I do not entertain a doubt.

You are aware that about the middle of September, Vice-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, Commander-in-Chief on the North American and West India Stations, visited me here;—that the Executive Council and Chamber of Commerce had interviews with His Excellency, and presented to him Addresses at Government House. Although I was not present on these occasions, I understand the Vice-Admiral informed the Council and the Chamber of Commerce that the French Commodore had been at Halifax and communicated to him the same information which he, and several of the French Officers, had made public at Newfoundland; and the Vice-Admiral informed the Council and the Chamber of Commerce, that he would always be ready to protect the just rights and privileges of Her Majesty's Subjects; that it was no less his inclination than his duty to do so, for such were his instructions from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; but, if a new question arose on the construction of existing Treaties, and a difference of opinion took place on that subject, both he (the Admiral,) and their Governor must be guided by advice from the Queen's Government.

The Colonial Minister has received all the information that we could afford him, and I have heard from Sir Houston Stewart that his Report was forwarded from Halifax to the First Lord of the Admiralty on the 2nd of November.