

and the fields and valleys were never fairer or fresher. A run into the country from the dust and din of the city is both pleasurable and profitable, and as the warm weather of July approaches, the usual summer trip is beginning to press on people's attention. If present prospects are realized, the country will reap above an average harvest during the next two months, and the business of the country, for some time so quiet, become more active and profitable.

PRACTICAL FREE TRADE.

WHILE the hardy fishermen of the United States are supposed to have to pay for the right of fishing in Dominion waters, and while colonial caught fish are supposed to be excluded from United States markets, the fishermen themselves, at least at one point, have quietly inaugurated free-trade, and by mutual consent of all parties interested, neither license on the one hand nor duty on the other is exacted. This is exactly as it should be barring only that it is illegal. Being illegal, however, our Government rightly determined, as far as they were concerned, to put a stop to it, and issued a proclamation warning American fishermen to take out licenses, or to cease fishing in Dominion waters.

The *St John Telegraph*, writing on the subject treats it as if it were rather hard lines to put a stop to this comfortable reciprocity and "likely to create universal disturbance," but does not seem to consider that a very dangerous precedent might be established by permitting foreigners to fish in our waters without taking out the necessary license and that under the present relations existing between Canada and the United States it must be our policy to give away nothing, to hold in our own hands every natural advantage which we possess and not allow a single one to slip from us. We should like to have reciprocity but not the kind that exists in the vicinity of Eastport: and neglect to put a stop to that kind of free-trade would undoubtedly render it more difficult to command the other. To set ourselves as if our fisheries were of little value is the sure way to cause our neighbours to underrate them also. They are trump cards, and we can by no means afford to throw them away.

This is what the *Telegraph* has to say on the matter:—

"Eastport is largely dependent on the trade in fish, and a large proportion of the catch on the Grand Manan side of the Bay is accomplished by Eastport fishing boats. To drive off these boats would be to deprive a large number of Americans of the means of living.

Again, the fish taken on the British side by British boats are taken into Eastport free of duty; they are smuggled in, the inhabitants on both sides understanding one another perfectly in this matter. Hence, Eastport is the great market for British caught fish as well and in case the ice fish were driven from the fishing grounds, their influence would undoubtedly secure the enforcement of the United States tariff as against British fish. The enforcement of the Dominion order, therefore, in this district at least, was likely to create universal disturbance—to injure everybody and please nobody—Americans losing the fishing grounds and the British losing their market.

It is understood that as regards the Islands near Eastport, the law will not be enforced for the present, since the circumstances of the locality are so very peculiar."

THE NOVA SCOTIA SETTLEMENT.

THE adjustment of the debt and subsidies of Nova Scotia has been agreed to by Parliament, and, as soon as the measure has been sanctioned by Her Majesty's representative, will become law. This arrangement allows Nova Scotia a debt of \$9,188,756 instead of eight millions as allotted in the British North America Act, and also an additional subsidy of \$52,036 for ten years. The total annual increase of income to that Province from the measure is claimed by the Hon Mr Rose to be \$155,000. These concessions must be considered as liberal and generous towards Nova Scotia, and indicate in the most practicable manner possible that the Dominion Legislature is ready to do full justice to the inhabitants of that part of the country. We trust it will be so accepted, and that hereafter we shall witness a rapid decline of Anti Unionism and the growth of loyalty and attachment to our now Dominion and its institutions.

There can be little question that these concessions to Nova Scotia give her a financial advantage over the other Provinces—at least over Ontario and Quebec. A point has been strained to manifest to our fellow-citizens down there, that the rest of the Dominion does not hesitate to give them better terms than they have themselves, in order to win their confidence and

attachment. For it must be remembered that during 1883, whilst the Dominion obtained \$1,504,910 in revenue from Nova Scotia, there was spent in its service \$1,000,000—nearly \$500,000 more than was paid in. But it is also clear, if Mr. Rose be correct, that the Local Government has not sufficient funds to meet its annual expenditure, and would have difficulty in raising it from local sources,—so it is contended these financial concessions are necessary. If the settlement was accepted by all parties in Nova Scotia, few, we believe, would regret it, for all friends of Union earnestly desire the hearty acceptance of the situation by those who have heretofore been aggrieved. One thing at least is certain, the Dominion has acted with great liberality in carrying out the agreement made with Messrs Howe and McClellan, and that any further concessions are quite out of the question.

It would be an advisable thing, if the Parliament of Canada would now declare, that hereafter the debts and subsidies of the various Provinces, as settled by the Union Act, will upon no consideration be interfered with. It must be admitted there was great force in the constitutional objections raised to any disturbance of the Quebec agreement, for if not unconstitutional, the increase of debt and subsidy to one Province may at least be made a precedent for continual assaults on the public exchequer. It is to be hoped the door will now be closed for ever on all similar demands, and that the financial part of the Constitution, as embodied in the British North America Act, will never again be disturbed. As the Provinces grow they will require more revenue, but this increase must be raised, as in the case of the States of the neighbouring Republic, by local taxation.

EMIGRATION FROM ENGLAND.

THE fact, which has been forcing itself more and more on the attention of the British public, that the pauper population of England already very numerous is steadily increasing, has caused much thoughtful consideration to be bestowed on the subject of relieving the labour market in some way, and checking pauperism by thinning the population. The attention of many hard working men, whose ill-paid toil barely gave themselves and families subsistence, has also been forcibly directed to emigration as a means of enabling them to better their condition in life, and to exchange comparative poverty at home, with hard work all their days for prospective independence and comparative wealth in some strange land beyond the seas.

The practical interest taken from personal or philanthropic motives in this matter, has resulted already in a great increase of the number of emigrants this season as compared with last year, the increase being especially noticeable in natives of England. The United States will receive a very great proportion of these emigrants, but Canada is not likely to be altogether neglected, Ontario especially offering to the settler splendid opportunities for establishing himself. The Government of that Province have not, however, relied on the natural advantages of the soil and its productions, and the knowledge which already exists concerning them. They have taken steps to spread that knowledge, and to place in the possession of intending emigrants such reliable information as would induce them to choose Ontario as their destination, in place perhaps of the United States or Australia.

The following is a review, by the *London Economist*, of the pamphlet on emigration, issued by the Ontario Government. We believe there is a mistake in attributing the authorship of the pamphlet to Mr. White, the special commissioner, but there is no mistake made in the estimate of his ability. Here is the extract referred to:—

"The Canadians we are glad to see are going to make a determined effort to secure a share of European emigration, having sent over as special commissioner a man of no little ability whose first work is the production of the pamphlet before us. The case which Ontario here makes out is undeniably a good one. The Canadian Home-stead Law is singularly favourable to the small farmer or agricultural labourer, and there is abundance of land to be granted under it within easy reach of rail and steamer. Full information is here given as to climate, expense of clearing, market for productions, and other points on which the emigrant would need to be informed, including such matters as the form of Government and the amount of taxation, which are doubly important now when the United States, which is the most active touter

"for emigrants, has to struggle against wide-spread political corruption and a taxation per head three times that of Canada. Stress we think might also have been laid on the bad method of United States taxation, which makes it doubly oppressive, the Canadian tariff, though too Protectionist, being far superior to the American, and securing to the Canadian farmer greater advantages in the outlay of his income. In an Imperial sense it is interesting to notice that the Ontario settlements are spreading up the Ottawa and towards Lake Nipissing, so that more and more of one of the future highways between the Atlantic and the Pacific is being cleared, and it is becoming less and less true that Canada is a mere fringe of settlements on the borders of the United States. The pamphlet ought to be widely circulated among clergymen, country gentlemen, emigration associations, and all who come in contact with the emigrating classes."

BANK CHARTERS AND THE BANKING MEASURE.

ON Tuesday last, in the House of Commons, Hon Mr Rose stated, with reference to his Resolution on Banking that the Government would have been glad had there been a ready acquiescence in the principle involved therein, but that believing the contemplated reforms were such as speedily to meet the general acceptance of the country, they had no desire to force the consideration of them during the present session, but to allow the country to consider them maturely. He also stated that the Government had come to the conclusion to extend the charters of four or five Banks which expired in January, 1870, to June, 1870, from which they would continue till the session following. This would put all Bank charters on precisely the same footing as regarded time of expiration. Before then there would be another session of Parliament, when Government would again bring before the House the consideration of these resolutions.

We are inclined to think that the action of Government in thus giving time for full consideration of the important changes proposed has been a judicious one. The rejection of the measure now—and had it been pressed it would probably have met that fate—would have prevented its again being introduced at least for an indefinite time; while, as it is, its consideration in Parliament is promised previous to the expiration of the Bank charters in 1870. We hope the question will be thoroughly discussed throughout the country, and that whenever it comes up for settlement a decision may be arrived at entirely irrespective of party politics.

GROWTH OF THE DOMINION.

THE admission of Newfoundland into the Union, may now be said to be accomplished. Resolutions based on proposals made by delegates from the Legislature of that Colony, have been introduced into the Dominion Parliament and been read a second time, the Government being supported by a large majority, and all amendments moved with a view to retard the measure promptly negatived. Resolutions authorizing the commencement of negotiations with the Prince Edward Island Government have also passed through several stages, and as power is given to treat on liberal terms, it is likely that there will soon remain no more territory to be acquired in the direction of the Atlantic.

Looking westward and northward, we may consider that we already are in Union with, or rather possess the entire territory lying beyond and above us, save and except Mr. Seward's notable purchase, sterile Alaska. £20,000 sterling are to be raised by loan with Imperial guarantee, to pay to the Hudson's Bay Company under the terms of agreement, and £200,000 additional on the credit of Canada, for the purpose of opening up communication with, and administering the Governments, and providing the settlement of the newly acquired territories.

Thus, quietly, without revolution or violent change of any kind, there is being established as one Dominion—nominally under the Government of Great Britain, practically independent—a country of vast size, thinly peopled indeed, but fertile, productive, capable of development to an almost unlimited extent and certain so soon as communications are opened up, to attract crowds of settlers, and for years to come to be the destination of thousands and thousands of old world labourers and agriculturists.

It will not be very many years before there will be another railway across this continent, through Cana-