

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

Report of the Grey's Inn Road Committee (London) adopted at a meeting held Nov. 22nd 1858, on the subject of the Newfoundland Fisheries.

The paper read Nov. 8th having been reconsidered and amended—Resolved.—“That it be adopted as the Report of the Committee.”

REPORT.

On 14th of January, 1857, the treaty of London was signed:—

Article I. gave the French an exclusive right to fish and to use the strand for fishery purposes on certain parts of the Newfoundland coast.

Article II. deprived the British of the right of using the strand in certain parts of the coast where they were still allowed to fish.

Article III. conferred on the French a concurrent right of fishing on the coast of Labrador.

Article XI conferred on the French naval officers a jurisdiction on shore.

Article XX. stipulated for the consent of the Newfoundland Legislature as a necessary preliminary to the execution of the treaty.

On the 2nd of March, 1857, the Newfoundland Assembly, by an unanimous vote, rejected the treaty.

On the 11th of April, 1857, Louis Napoleon announced the treaty by an Imperial decree in the “Moniteur.”

On the 11th of May, 1857, Mr. Labouchere, in the House of Commons, said, in reply to a question from his predecessor, Sir John Pakington:—

“The [Newfoundland] Legislature has decidedly refused to accept the convention which is consequently of no effect.”

On the 16th May this Committee pointed out to Mr Labouchere that the Treaty of London, granting “exclusive” right to the French on part of the Newfoundland coast was a violation of the Treaty of Washington which conferred on the Americans a concurrent right on the whole of that coast.

Mr Labouchere replied that there were plenty of accessible public documents respecting the Treaty of Utrecht.

On the 10th June, this committee applied to Sir John Pakington. He replied that

“He did not think it necessary to enter into the subject, as her Majesty's Government had abandoned the intention to conclude the contemplated treaty with France.”

On the 1st July the “Free Press” contained these words:—

“The convention was not meant to be accepted, and its proposal is at once a mask for ulterior designs and a means of their accomplishment.”

Extracts from documents were quoted, and it was added that in them

“May be seen what value the French Government places on the dissent of the colony.”

On the 24th of August, Mr. Crockwell, Protector of the Labrador Fisheries, wrote:

“Should it not be publicly announced by the Emperor of the French that the Convention of the 14th January, 1857, is null and void, we shall have an immense influx of French fishermen on this coast in the ensuing sea-on, and unless strong preventative measures be employed the most serious collisions between the Newfoundland and French Fishermen may be expected.”

On the 28th of April, 1858, this Committee wrote to Sir John Pakington, then and now first Lord of the Admiralty, communicating the substance of the Report made by the Protector of the Fisheries, and asking if the Emperor of the French had rescinded the Imperial decree of the 11th April, 1857.

Sir John Pakington referred the Committee to the Foreign-office.

A similar application being then made to Lord Malmebury, he replied that

“His Lordship declines entering into a communication with a private association on public matters.”

The Keightly Committee asked Lord Stanley if the report of the protector of the Fisheries had been received at the Colonial-office? Lord Stanley wrote, 12th May, 1858:—

“That he had received no report on the subject.”

Mr. Hanbury, urged by the Kensington Committee, put a question in the House of

Commons, to Lord Stanley, on the 5th May, replied that

“No change had taken place in the position of this country relative to France or the United States, with regard to the Newfoundland Fisheries.”

Whereupon Mr. Hanbury hoped that the Committee were now “quite satisfied.”

The Colony Committee having warned Lord Goderich, member for the West Riding, of danger, in case the Newfoundland Treaty were “allowed to remain in force,” he replied, 22nd May:—

“The Convention concluded with France upon the subject of the Newfoundland Fisheries, has never been in operation, in consequence of the refusal of the Colonial Legislature to give its consent.”

On the 24th of June, the Staleybridge Committee asked Sir Bulwer Lytton, if the treaty were valid, and what would be the consequences of its enforcement by the Emperor of the French? Sir Bulwer Lytton replied, July 10th:—“The Fishery Convention with France ‘has never come into operation’ having been disallowed by the local Legislature of Newfoundland, whose concurrence was required by express terms of the Convention itself to give it effect. It is consequently out of the question that the French Government should put it into operation, and Sir B. Lytton need scarcely add that he has received no information of their having attempted, as you suppose, to do so.”

On the 18th August, the Preston Committee concluded a correspondence with the Colonial Secretary, as follows:—“You, Sir, say of this convention, not that it is null and void, but that it is ‘never come into operation.’ It is then a still existing compact between France and England, only prevented from being fulfilled by the resistance of a dependency of England.”

On the 5th August, the Staleybridge Committee asked Sir Bulwer Lytton to inform them.

“Whether the reports of Messrs Kelly and Crockwell have reached the Colonial Office, and have received consideration?”

On the 25th August Sir B. Lytton writes that,

“As regards the general question he can add nothing to what he has already stated.”

The question is then repeated, and on the 28th September he writes:—

“That he is fully aware of the contents of the reports made by Messrs Kelly and Crockwell, and that they received due consideration.”

Mr. Crockwell's report was dated 24th August, 1857, and by the 28th September 1858, it has reached the Colonial Secretary and received ‘due consideration.’

It was on the 25th of August that Sir B. Lytton repeated his assurance that “it was out of the question that the French governments should put their treaty into operation.”

On the “very same day,” Sir Alexander Bannerman, the Governor of Newfoundland, wrote to the Newfoundland Chamber of Commerce that the threatened encroachments were being made; that is, the French ‘were’ carrying out the abrogated treaty. The following passages are extracted from the Governor's letter:—

“If encroachments have been made by the French, and a determination expressed by them to carry out these encroachments still further next season, I cannot agree with the Chamber of Commerce that these have been committed in ignorance that the late Convention had not gone into operation.”

“The officers of his Imperial Majesty's ships who were stationed on the coast of Newfoundland must be fully aware that the Convention fell to the ground.”

“Early in July the Commandant-in-Chief of the coast of Newfoundland informed me he had touched here for the purpose of paying his respects to me; ‘he did not allude to any change’ in the policy which the French Government have hitherto pursued.”

“I have learnt from the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Houston Stewart, that the Baron de la Ronciere de Noury, was much more communicative to ‘him,’ fully expressing the intentions of the French government.”

In the month of August a notice had been served by the French Commander-in-

Chief on the magistrate of St. George's Bay, to the effect that the French had an exclusive right to fish and use the strand in that district, and that the English must therefore cease to do so.

On the 31st of August the Governor issued a proclamation referring to.

“Intimations which have been made, or may be made, to you, (the British fisherman,) by officers commanding the ships belonging to his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of the French.”

On the 16th September, 1858, Walter Grieve, Esq., President of the Chamber of Commerce, writes, to the British Commandant respecting

“The threatening notice which has been officially served on the inhabitants of St. George's Bay by the Commander-in-Chief of the French naval force stationed on our coast.”

Sir Houston Stewart in his reply dated the same day, uses the following words:

“The interpretation of the treaties must be left to the Imperial government.”

“Le Pays,” a semi-official organ of the French government, says:—

“It is not the treaty projected and not ratified by the Legislature of Newfoundland that we wish to execute, it is the anterior treaties of 1783, 1803 and 1814, treaties of which several parts have never received their execution. There are bays and zones which have always been neglected, and of which we have never taken possession, and which we now claim. Our claims are so just, so equitable, that THEY HAVE BEEN ADMITTED BY ENGLAND. We do not know the line which will be taken with regard to the treaty lately drawn up, but, in every case, France is perfectly justified in demanding the full and entire execution of ancient treaties.”

The British Government first admits doubts, and then acts on French instructions. But no one pretends that the old treaties established a French jurisdiction in the island of Newfoundland. This, however is done by Art. 10, of the new treaty:—

“The French naval officers, or other delegates duly nominated for this purpose by the French officer commanding in chief on the station, shall be entitled to take such measures as occasion may require to put the French fishermen in possession of any portion of the strand, of which their exclusive use for fishery purposes is recognised by this present convention, in case of there being no British ‘police establishment,’ cruising vessel, or other recognised authority within a distance of five English miles.

“Such measures may include the removal of buildings or enclosures, in conformity with the above stipulations, fifteen days' notice of any such intended removal having been given to any ‘such British authority as aforesaid,’ if known to be within twenty English miles. Should there be no such authority within that distance, then the French officer commanding in chief, shall, on the earliest opportunity ‘after’ any such removal shall have taken place, report the same to the English officer commanding in chief.”

This notice has now been given; the treaty therefore is in operation. There is now no longer an evil to be averted, but a confusion to embitter and exasperate.

By Consent of the Post-Master General.

M. SHEA, newspaper Agent.

ALL Newspapers dropped into the Agent's box for British North America, will be forwarded free by Mail Packet to Mr. Graham's Bookstore, Halifax, whence they will be forwarded to their destination.

Newspapers addressed to Newfoundland, sent to British North American Colonies under cover to Mr. Graham, will be forwarded free of charge.

Newspapers, if sent by Post from Newfoundland to these Colonies, or VICE VERSA, will be liable to a charge of 1d. each.

Oct. 21

THE CONCEPTION BAY-MAN

Is Edited and printed every Wednesday morning, by GEORGE WEBBER, at his office Water Street, opposite the Premises of W. DONNELLY, Esq.

TERMS—Fifteen shillings per Annum half in advance

Notice.
BRITANNIA LIFE
Assurance Company
1, PRINCESS STREET, BANK, LONDON.
ESTABLISHED—1837.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, IV
1st. cap. LX.
ADVANTAGES OF THIS INSTITUTION

INCREASING RATES OF PREMIUM.
A Table especially adapted to the securing of Loans or Debts, and to all other cases where a Policy may be required for a temporary purpose only, but which may be kept up, if necessary throughout the whole term of Life.

HALF-CREDIT RATES OF PREMIUM
Credit given for half the amount of the First even Annual Premiums, the amount of the unpaid Half-Premiums being deducted from the sum assured when the Policy becomes a claim SUM ASSURED PAYABLE DURING LIFE.
The amount payable at the death of the Assured, if he die before attaining the age of sixty out to the assured himself, if he attain that age thus constituting a provision for old age with an assurance upon life.

ORPHAN'S ENDOWMENT BRANCH.
Established for the purpose of affording to parents and others the means of having Children educated and started in life, by securing annuities, to commence at the Parent's death, and to be paid up to a child, if a son, shall attain his 21st year, or, if a daughter, her 25th year of age

BRITANNIA MUTUAL
LIFE ASSOCIATIONS.
1, PRINCESS STREET BANK, LONDON.
INSTITUTED—1839.

Empowered by Her Majesty's Royal Letter Patent.

Annual Division of Profits—applied in reduction of the current year's Premium.
Policy-holders entitled to participate in the profits after payment of Five or even Annual Premiums according to the table of rates selected.

Premiums charged for every three month difference of age—not, as is usually the case for every whole year only.

Half Credit Policies granted on terms unusually advantageous to the assured, the amount of half premiums for which credit is given being liquidated out of the profits.

At the last Annual General Meeting a reduction 39 per centum was made in the current year's premium of a participating Policies.

Age of the Assured in every case admitted in the Policy.
Medical Attendants remunerated in all cases of the Deport

Age.	Half Premium during First 7 years.	Whole (Annual) Premium for remainder of Life.	Annual Premium.	Half Yearly Premium.		Quarterly Premium.	
				s.	d.	s.	d.
25	0 19 7	1 19 2	2 7 3	1 4 0	0 12 3	3 3	
30	0 19 9	2 3 6	2 7 6	1 4 4	0 12 4	3 4	
35	1 4 11	2 9 10	2 7 10	1 4 6	0 12 5	3 5	
40	1 9 2	2 18 4	2 8 0	1 4 8	0 12 6	3 6	
45	1 14 10	3 3 8	2 8 2	1 4 8	0 12 6	3 6	
50	2 2 6	4 5 6	2 8 6	1 4 10	0 12 7	3 7	
55	2 12 9	5 5 6	2 8 8	1 4 10	0 12 7	3 7	
60	3 3 6	6 13 4	2 8 8	1 4 11	0 12 7	3 7	

Detained prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurance may be obtained upon application to
ROBERT PROWSE,
NOTARY PUBLIC
Agent for Newfoundland

Office

The following Board on the Resolved.—

Resolved.—The accounts public Building was control, e ordered by th ed by the wri cretary of suc Resolved.— Roads, or ser have authority work of any de tse written oc tary

NOTICE

THE BOARD notice th on Green Isal Harbor, Trinit was on the 13t by one of a m iver range. LIGHT burps high water, ex to surprise, and seen from E. miles. Vessels this Light open until Bonavist Jean, will give berth—or ‘the ard bound for a moderate b Ricks by steer Green Island

WARR

ST. JOHN'S COMMISSION

Agent Canada