

it should be stipulated that fish imported into the United States by colonial fishermen should be treated upon a perfect equality with that imported by subjects of the United States. But this concession the Representatives of Nova Scotia refused to agree to, without obtaining the sanction of the Legislature. Her Majesty's Government, probably considering that in a matter of Imperial concern a colony is not at liberty to assume the right of resisting a measure of national importance, nevertheless instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Washington to propose, as one of the concessions for the desired free trade, the admission of Americans to a participation in the sea-fisheries of all the North American colonies, excepting Newfoundland, with permission to land for the purpose of drying their nets or curing their fish, subject, however, to the indispensable condition, that all fish, fresh or cured, exported from our colonies into the United States, in vessels of whatever nation or description, should be admitted duty free, and upon terms in all respects of perfect equality with fish imported by citizens of the United States.

The success of the negotiation with the United States for reciprocal trade being, in the opinion of Canada and the lower colonies, extremely problematical, retaliatory and protective measures, such as the closing of the canals, the repeal of the Canadian Act equalizing the import duties, and the vigorous enforcement of the Convention of 1818, have been threatened. Nova Scotia has, as is stated in the preceding part of this memorandum, voted money for the general protection of the fisheries; an Act giving bounties to fishermen has passed the Legislature of Prince Edward Island; and a formal demand has come from New Brunswick, that either the Convention of 1818 should be enforced, or that Lord Grey's instructions prohibiting the enactment of bounties should be rescinded. The Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island has further reported, in a late despatch, which is subjoined, that to the Act giving bounties will be added, when the Assembly meets, resolutions as to the Convention of 1818, which will be in favour of conceding to the United States free admission to the Prince Edward Island fisheries, on condition of their conceding in return the free