

nufacture as the construction, in this, and other parts of the Island, of Ships and Vessels, not only suited for the prosecution of the deep-sea fisheries, but capable of conveying the manufactured produce to any part of the commercial world. Such an encouragement would, as appears to me, be in strict accordance with that principle which every country should keep steadily in view, of increasing the amount of the export of its staple commodities, especially in a *manufactured* shape, by every means in its power.—Thus, in corn and timber growing colonies, the benefit of manufacturing the grain into flour and meal, and the timber into deals, boards, and ships for exportation, should, if possible, be confined to the inhabitants of such colonies ;—and though this island has at present, neither surplus grain nor timber to export, yet it has recently shown to the inhabitants of this port that vessels of sufficient size, of strong fabric, and beautiful model, may be successfully constructed by ‘Native’ talent, duly encouraged, and of timber of ‘native’ growth.

A bill for regulating the sale of waste Land ‘of the Crown’ in this Colony, will be laid before you ; but you will be aware that the provisions of such a bill must remain, in a great measure, inoperative in this Island, until such ‘Surveys’ shall have been executed as may enable the Surveyor-General to describe, and to estimate, with a due degree of accuracy, the lots which may be applied for, or offered for sale, and the general circumstances affecting them.—For such Surveys, in connexion with those for certain lines of roads, already adverted to, due provision should be made. In reference to this subject, it is my intention to propose to her Majesty’s Government to sanction an arrangement by which all persons of British origin, who may have been in the actual occupation of lands,—though without license, lease or grant,—for a given period, shall be enabled to acquire a title to such lands, on such conditions as may be considered just and reasonable, with reference to the circumstances of such case, and with a view to secure them and their heirs in the free enjoyment of the improvements which they may have made therein.

Upon a subject of so much importance as the Administration of Justice in the Supreme Court of this Island, upon terms as moderate as may consist with the various professional rights and interests involved, I have directed to be laid before you a Despatch from the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, inviting your consideration of the subject, with a view to submit to her Majesty’s Government, by bill or otherwise, such propositions for the limitation of those powers, which, at an earlier period of the history of this Colony, it was deemed expedient to confer, by Charter, upon the Chief, and other Judges of the Supreme Court, of making ‘Rules,’ which are in effect ‘Laws,’ affecting the Public Revenue, by regulating the amount of fees to be received in that Court. Copies of the existing ‘Rules’ of Court and Tables of Fees, as well as of the two new Rules, the subject of Lord Stanley’s despatch, will be laid before you, and the important points involved, will, I doubt not, be considered by you with a due regard, as well to the interests of the suitor, as those of the legal profession.

The liberty and privileges of the subject are so deeply involved in the equitable provisions and due administration of the laws affecting ‘Bankrupts,’ as well as those for the regulation of Prisons, that I feel it an imperative part of my duty to invite your attention to those important objects of Legislation, with a view to endeavour to extend to this Island the full benefit of the many wise and humane regulations which have been introduced into the Acts of the Imperial Parliament on these subjects.

Although I am impressed with a conviction that nothing but an Act of ‘Incorporation’ can effectually confer upon the City of St. John’s all those benefits which the inhabitants of the commercial capital of a colony whose annual ‘Exports’ amount, on the average, to little less than a million sterling ought to enjoy, yet I will not abstain from offering [by Message] a few observations and suggestions