

other means of living or to starve, the teachers of common schools; by putting a stop to education for twelve months; and by refusing all protection to our fisheries—a matter considered of such vital importance, that the Commercial Society have, since the prorogation of the Legislature, at their own expense, furnished to the Local Government the funds necessary to maintain a small force near Cape John. Those whom I represent, rather desire to place before H. M. Government the real condition of parties and affairs in Newfoundland, leaving it to their wisdom to devise the proper remedy.

Should it however, be deemed expedient in accordance with the principles of the Duke of Newcastle's despatch, to make a new arrangement of the electoral divisions of the Colony, I may be permitted to observe, that in 1835, an Act, brought in by a Roman Catholic member, passed the Local Legislature, by which this was effected, but which Act was disallowed by the Home Government, because it included in its arrangement a part of the French shore; and that in 1844, a bill was brought into the amalgamated Legislature for the like purpose, which, although supported by a majority of the Assembly, was withdrawn after eight days debate, in consequence of the continued resistance of a Roman Catholic minority, which threatened to persevere in its opposition by speaking against time, so as to obstruct all other public business.

Either of these measures, with a slight modification, would afford a full and fair representation.

The Duke of Newcastle's despatch having conceded the principle of responsible government, renders it now unnecessary for me to refer to many matters which had previously been considered of importance upon both sides; but there are still a few points in relation to this subject, to which I may be permitted shortly to allude.