

# THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, March 9.

Mr. PROWSE said that matters had been brought forward which he considered required refutation, matters which had reference to the entire subject of the late projected Convention with France, he should therefore offer a few remarks, and should refer to circumstances which had occurred prior to the storm which had been raised to defeat that Convention. From the time he had taken his place in that House, he had suspected that something had been going on in England bearing upon the interests of Newfoundland; he had good reason for believing that the French Government were making overtures for an extension of their fishing right upon its shores; and he had in two successive sessions moved for the production of all despatches in relation to the fisheries which had been transmitted from this country to the Colonial Office, but these despatches had been peremptorily refused by the Administration, or the plea that while negotiations were pending between the governments of England and France, it would be inexpedient to produce them; thus they had refused to produce the despatches which they knew had existence, and yet they had since asserted that they were not privy to their contents: how could hon. gentlemen reconcile this apparent contradiction? Now, the hon. member for Trinity Dr. Winter moved an Address for the production of a certain pamphlet with the name of its author, and he had been told by the Administration that they knew nothing of its authorship and they would not produce the pamphlet. If any disinterested person were to read the despatch, wherewith Governor Darling transmitted to the Colonial Office three copies of this pamphlet, he could not but conclude that he and his advisers were aware of the author, and if they had not known it, would the pamphlet have been forwarded to the Imperial Government, accompanied by a despatch signed by Governor Darling? It was clear that if Governor Darling was not himself the author, the Administration well knew who was; from the terms of the despatches in reference to the pamphlet, it was evident that Governor Darling and his Ministry had adopted its views, because it stated that it went to show "the grounds upon which Her Majesty's Government were justified in expecting that many of the provisions of the Convention would find acceptance with the Legislature of Newfoundland." It was therefore no use for hon. gentlemen to say that they did not know the author, and he did not see why they should refuse to sanction the Address before the House. He (Mr. Prowse) believed that Governor Darling had been sent to the colony for the special purpose of carrying out that Convention, although for the ostensible purpose of inaugurating Responsible Government, of which he made good use to effect his purpose, by doing whatever the present Administration proposed to suit their views and their interests, and thus securing their co-operation in forwarding his secret design; he knew if he could succeed he would be suitably rewarded by the Imperial Government; such was Governor Darling's policy, and to ensure it he had not hesitated about the means. The hon. Attorney General had stated that all had been done to endanger the interests of the country, with respect to the Convention, had been based upon the suggestions of the old government, but if he (Mr. Prowse) had recourse to the records of Government House, he suspected he would be able to discover that the Administration had been aware at an early date of all the negotiations which had been going on, and had been so when they refused to produce the despatches asked for. If the Administration at that time had faithfully communicated all they knew to the House, the country would have been saved from the excitement and apprehension created by the announcement of the proposed Convention; but Governor Darling and his Administration had refused the information which had been demanded, and the consequence was that the Imperial Government had agreed without the knowledge of the people of the country to yield concessions to the French, which, if they had been ratified, would have ruined British interests and exposed the population to starvation. The hon. and learned Attorney General had referred to the Addresses which had been presented to Governor Darling, but he (Mr. Prowse) when asked, had indignantly refused to attach his name to it, he knowing his policy, and his readiness to barter away the rights of the country, would rather have cut his arm off than sign that address; such were his feelings upon the matter, and he was joined by many of the commercial body in those feelings, yet many of that body had been induced to sign that Address, (as he was sorry so say persons were frequently wont to do) who would have gladly withdrawn their signatures afterwards if they could. Governor Darling was aware of his (Mr. Prowse's) expressed opinions on his policy, and he had no doubt he was more respected by Governor Darling for openly avowing his honest convictions, although, as he Mr. Prowse was aware, he had privately expressed disapprobation of the views he, (Mr. Prowse,) entertained concerning him. He thought it necessary to make these few explanatory observations, but would no longer detain the House.

OUTFIT FOR THE SEAL FISHERY—1858.

CARBONEAR.			
Supplied by Pack Gosse & Fryer.			
Vessels	Masters	Tons	Men.
Secret	Fitzgerald	137	56
Trial	Kenedy	135	42
Morning Star	Wacher	94	34
Breadalbane	Joyce	113	88
Princess Royal	Nicholl	97	26
Herald	Nicholl	88	30
Sir J. G. LeMarchant	Benson	131	45
Supplied by John Rork.			
Thomas Ridley	Hanrahan	164	54
Echo	Snook	115	42
Bridge Water	Guines	106	28
Supplied by J. L. McNeil.			
Margaret Jane	Taylor	130	46
Margaret Ann	Taylor	140	49
John & Racheal	Pilgrim	93	32
Supplied by M. Wilshire.			
Aurora	Penny	125	44
Dolphin	Stapleton	173	60
Mary	Stapleton	122	32
Supplied by Forward Brothers.			
Six Brothores	Taylor	167	53
Supplied by C. F. Bennett & Company			
Bell	Oats	149	45
Supplied by P. Rogerson & Son			
Victoria	Rumson	105	42
Corie Mullen	Butt	80	28
...	Thomas Taylor		
Rosalie	Cram	82	32
...	Thomas Oats		
John Gibson	Oats	123	39
...	Benjamin Gould.		
Orient	Giles	124	46
...	Boyd & McDougall		
Mary Jane	Clark	62	25
...	Uwen Siabb		
Sisters	Colbert	77	26
...	James Forward.		
Margaret Jane	Forward	146	54
...	E. Dwyer.		
Walrus	Dwyer	131	47
HEARTS CONTENT.			
...	William Brown.		
Star of the Sea	Brown	120	50
NEW PERLICAN.			
...	John Bemister.		
Bloomer Lass	Avery	124	46
...	Stephen March.		
Corsair	March	130	48
CATALINA.			
...	John Roark.		
Mary	Chauk	30	

[FROM THE LEDGER OF THE 19th inst.]

In the adjourned debate on the Revenue Amendment Act, last evening, the object of the Bill being in effect to tax the Labrador, and which was stoutly resisted by the minority, the government consented so far as to agree that no tax should be levied on goods direct to that coast, yet maintained their determination to exact duties upon all goods in vessels that may discharge any portion of cargo in Newfoundland within their jurisdiction, the remainder being destined for the Labrador, and as this would work injuriously upon establishments having business connections upon both coasts, by preventing communication with our own ports, en route. At 10 o'clock the House divided, when there appeared 11 on each side. A question now arose as to the right of the Chairman to give the casting vote, the subject being one of impost of taxation. Mr. HOYLES having moved that the Speaker take the Chair, the Hon. Attorney General sprang to his feet, when Mr. PROWSE having called the hon. gentleman to order (the question of privilege being undebatable,) was met by this blessed leader of our blessed government with "Sit down, Sir; sit down, you hypocrite! you gigantic fraud!! Sit down, you whited sepulchre!!! Who are you, to dare speak to me, your superior!!!!" Mr. HOYLES maintaining that Mr. PROWSE was in order, raised the hon. gentleman's ire by reminding him of the danger of such passionate outbreaks, as shown on a previous occasion in the House, when the hon. gentleman ruptured a blood-vessel; he was immediately assailed in language following: "If you want fighting you shall have it! If I draw blood it shall not be my own, blood but other people's!!! I have done so before, and I'll do it again!!!!" Well, we believe he did do it once, but it is doubtful if he'll try it again. However, the long pending query propounded by Mr. E. D. Shea, of

Who killed Cock Robin," we may consider as now definitely answered.

It is but justice to the Speaker to state that his decision with respect to the right of the Chairman to vote was in favour of the opposition.

[FROM THE NEWFOUNDLANDER.]

We should certainly regret the retirement of our present Chief Justice from the position he so worthily fills; but should such an event take place, most decidedly with the Hon. Attorney General will lie the refusal of the office. This may be gall and wormwood to the Opposition; but it is not a whit less true on his account; while the bare fact of their hostility creates a *prima facie* cause for the favour with which the country would regard the elevation of this gentleman—if any such proof were needed of his high standing and claims in public estimation.

[FROM THE TIMES OF THE 20th.]

The last issue of the government organ (on Thursday) throws no further light on the business of the House of Assembly beyond the debate arising from Mr. ELLIS's desire to call "the attention of the reporters" and the country we presume "to the fact that the government had guaranteed £200 of the people's money for the encouragements of emigration to Newfoundland, without the sanction of the legislature;"—the minority of the house stoutly, but unsuccessfully, of course, proclaiming against such a violation of constitutional right, and maintaining that an increase of population by the introduction of emigrants could not but have a most injurious effect upon the Colony. Paupers no doubt, will be augmented, and the demand upon the Poor Commissioner, Dr. SHEA, (of which "honest STEPHEN" and others have reminded the originators of the scheme would thereby be swelled considerably.)

## INDIA.

(From the London Times.)

"ALEXANDRIA, FEB. 24, 1858.  
"The Pottinger arrived from Bombay at Suez yesterday evening, and the following intelligence has been telegraphed to me:—  
"The Commander-in-Chief, at the head of the force of 250 (25,000?) men, with about 70 pieces of ordnance, continues collecting supplies and means of conveyance at Futtyghur. He is expected to move on. Oude will be invaded by masses of troops advancing on all sides about the 25th.  
"The enemy are fortifying Lucknow by this time in great strength. There are about 100,000 of them in arms. They are said to be losing heart and anxious to negotiate.  
"Sir James Outram has been left undisturbed since the 16th. He was reinforced on the 22d by Her Majesty's 34th, from Cawnpore, a convoy of stores. A party of Rifles have taken up a post on the Lucknow road, one march from Cawnpore, where they will remain to keep open communication.  
"Sir H. Rose, with Central India Field Force, captured the strong fort Raigurh on the 29th, the enemy having escaped over the walls. He relieved Sugar on the 3d, and released about 100 Christian women and children. The garrison had been shut up for six months. The Rajpootana field force captured Avas on the 23d; it was the strongest town in Rajpootana. The garrison escaped over night in a frightful storm of thunder and rain.

## THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1858.

HAVING in our last number disposed of the question of the purity of our representative branch, by showing it to be the most flagrantly corrupt, of any within the pale of the British constitution.—We are now free to offer conclusive testimony that our Ministry scrupled not, tacitly at least to sanction the concession of our fishery rights to foreigners by suffering the Secretary for the Colonies to believe that the infamous French Convention might through their influence be carried triumphantly through the Legislature of Newfoundland.  
Like all other nefarious acts, the above should be perpetrated with care and secrecy, which must at all times render it difficult to bring the proofs home to the delinquents, but in the consideration of connected circumstances the right of private judgement offers a privilege and latitude, which will we think be amply sufficient to shake the confidence of the people in the integrity of purpose and patriotism of their rulers.  
For the purpose of enabling all interested to judge fairly on this momentous subject we selected for publication, not the speeches of leaders

or lawyers, but the plain and reasonable observations of men who had been particularly engaged in the business of the country for years, who knew well the value of those fishing privileges which were about to be sacrificed, and who were the first to raise their voices for their conservation, all we ask in their behalf is a fair and candid consideration of their deliberate opinions set forth in our columns to day.

From all that we have been able to elicit upon the subject, we firmly believe that Governor Darling was directed by the home minister to exercise his influence for the ratification of the notorious convention, by the legal government. That he should have been selected merely for the purpose of inaugurating responsible rule amongst us, is scarcely reasonable, and would imply a want of ability or confidence in his successor which circumstances would by no means warrant. Then we have his celebrated despatch misinterpreting old treaties and straining every point to make out a favourable basis upon which the Convention might firmly rest and all this was applauded, and Governor Darling lauded by the pure ministry, and his portrait made to adorn the walls of the Council Chamber; and more recently a pamphlet was published by some of the ministry or their supporters and three copies sent home to justify their conduct in the affair, and reconcile seeming contradictions. The production of this pamphlet was moved by Dr. Winter, with the authors name which was refused by the ministry, as it may not be convenient to furnish all the documents to which it adverted. And thus an opportunity was afforded for observations which will we trust have the effect of opening the people's eyes to the dark treachery of those who first led the Imperial Minister to believe he acted in accordance with their views, and when they found the country not prepared for the change, turned round, and evinced their patriotism by inverted flags and disloyal orations against imperial iniquity.  
One thing must strike the unbiassed thinker with force viz. the profound secrecy which was observed by our ministry upon the subject of the Convention until the opening of the Legislature afforded opportunity for ministers to burst forth in vehement, even disloyal denunciation of the very measure upon which they had long been negotiating, and to which, months before, the American papers had called public attention.

When to these circumstance is added the fact of Mr. Prowse and other members having the previous session earnestly solicited the co-operation of the ministry to ward off the evil, and that assistance was not only withheld but the proposition mocked by ministerial supporters, so that the address to the Queen against further concessions to the French had to be forwarded without the sanction and support of our local government—we repeat, when the above facts are connected, there can be little difficulty in concluding that our ministry were not only aware of the threatened evil, but that they had some sinister motive for concealing facts, and quashing opposition to the completion of the now loudly repudiated convention.

On Wednesday the Benevolent Irish Society of Conception Bay, having assembled in the Temperance Hall, walked in procession from thence to Carbonear, accompanied by a Band of music, playing suitable and spirit stirring airs, The Society then in honor of their patron Saint attended mass in the St. Patricks Chapel, after which an appropriate sermon was delivered by the Right Rev. Dr. Dalton on the occasion (Communicated)

BIRTH.—On the 23 inst., The Wife of W. H. Ridley Esq., of a son.

DIED.—At Catalina on the 14th inst. John Murphy, Late Master of the Brig Adamant of this place, much and deservedly regretted by a large circle of relatives and friends.

## shipping intelligence.

PORT OF HARBOR GRACE.  
ENTERED.  
March 22—Belle, Brooks, Liverpool 19 days, Ridley & Son's  
CLEARED.  
March 24—Caroline, Sparks, Baltimore, Fish. Punton & Munn.

We regret to learn that the Schooner Edward, John Green Master, was lost on the morning of the 8th inst on Pinchards Island. The vessel had struck on breakers the night before and had to be run on shore to save the lives of the Crew.

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