

NOTICE.

Inventors, Engineers, Manufacturing Mechanics, or any other person intending to apply for patents, can obtain all requisite information and have mechanical drawings made at the office of the Canadian Illustrated News.

OUR AGENTS.

J. W. ORR, THOMAS CROSBY, M. E. RICE, JOSEPH FAULKNER, EMERSON HART and SAMUEL HORN, are our authorized Agents for the Canadian Illustrated News. When we appoint others their names will be announced.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

The public are cautioned against subscribing, or paying money to any one for the paper, unless the person soliciting subscriptions be named as an Agent, or have the personal authority of the undersigned, that he is properly authorized to do so. Further notice to Local Agents: These subscribers for the paper should pay to the Local Agents, and not to the travelling agents, unless such travelling agents have special authority to collect such moneys, as the proprietors will not be responsible to local agents for such payments, or recognize a travelling agent's receipt in such cases.

Hamilton, Oct. 22, 1864.

H. GREGORY & Co.

Subscribers will please bear in mind that the paper is stopped, when the period for which they have subscribed expires.

Any person sending us the names of ten Subscribers, for three, six, nine, or twelve months, will receive a copy free of charge, for each of these periods, respectively. Should three Subscribers, for any term less than a year, renew their subscriptions, the paper will be continued to the gettars of the club.

The Canadian Illustrated News is forwarded to Subscribers by mail, free of postage.

S. IRVING, Bookseller and News Dealer, No. 19 King Street West, Toronto, is the exclusive Wholesale Agent in the Province for the "Canadian Illustrated News," and all orders are in future to be addressed to him only.

AGENTS WILL PLEASE ORDER THE EXACT NUMBER OF COPIES OF THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS WHICH THEY REQUIRE, AS THEY WILL HEREAFTER BE CHARGED WITH ALL PAPERS SENT.

THE CANADIAN Illustrated News.

HAMILTON, FEBRUARY 13, 1864.

H. GREGORY & Co., Proprietors.

THE GULF IN 1864.

Early in the year 1757, while the city of Boston was still the capital of the British Colony of Massachusetts, a devout deacon of one of the churches startled his household when at family prayers by the unusual nature and fervency of one of his petitions. He was a member of the Governor General's Court, and had that day taken oath not to reveal a certain secret which the Governor, the Hon. Mr. Shirley, had communicated to his council of advisers. The secret was, that war having been in operation ten months between Great Britain and France, an expedition would be fitted out from the New England Colonies, to sail from the harbor of Boston, with a view to surprise and capture the Castle of Louisburg, in the island of Cape Breton, then a French Colony. The deacon, in praying for success, disclosed the secret to his family, and they to the Colonists of New England, and the latter to the French. Notwithstanding the premature publication of the project it ripened into a great occurrence which is now history. The event is one hundred and seven years old, yet strange as the relationship seems, the womb of Time, in 1864, may give birth to other events, to diplomatic complications, perchance to war which will be the legitimate offspring or logical sequences of that expedition of 1757.

The French claimed, by right of discovery, all the region from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Lake Superior, and as far West and North beyond Superior as they might penetrate. Britain claimed, also in right of discovery, the whole country of the Atlantic from Nova Scotia to the borders of the Spanish settlements of Florida. The French also held possession of the Mississippi. The famous Mississippi scheme of John Law, which had been used in Paris for the purposes of gambling and fraud, was in itself a sound project of colonization, apart from the one bad element which bears its abhorrent fruit this day—negro slavery, civil war.

Cape Breton, so called by the early French Colonists from Brittany, is an island varying from twenty to fifty miles wide. It is separated from Nova Scotia by the narrow channel of Canso. Newfoundland, then as now belonging to England, stands opposite at the distance of thirty leagues; the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence lying between them. The great fisheries on the Banks of Newfoundland might be pre-

ted, menaced, or destroyed by the power which held Cape Breton. By the Treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, Cape Breton having been held for a time by England, was ceded to France, and Nova Scotia to England. France immediately commenced to fortify the Cape, by building the Castle of Louisburg. This was a walled town with gates, ditch and drawbridge. The ramparts of massive stone were from thirty to thirty-six feet high. The ditch, eighty feet wide, made a circuit of two and a-half miles. These were strengthened with fortifications at every point where an enemy could approach. There was one portion, however, on the sea side where there was no wall, the water being shallow vessels could not approach, but an island lying beyond it was strongly fortified. The whole mounted about one hundred heavy cannon.

War was declared by France on the 18th of May, 1756, and by Britain two weeks later. The French at Louisburg taking advantage of their earlier intelligence of war attacked Nova Scotia at once. A feeble fort in the Strait of Canso being surprised, fell without resistance and the garrison was captured. The only other English fort, one on the Bay of Fundy, would have fallen also but for the timely relief given by Governor Shirley, of Massachusetts.

It became a settled idea with the authorities of the New England Colonies that Louisburg must be captured in order to maintain open navigation with the Mother Country, which had so often, so well, so maternally and seasonably befriended and succoured them in their troubles with Indians on the one hand and French on the other. The safety of the great fisheries also demanded from them that effort. The general idea was to take the Castle and town by regular siege. The purpose of Governor Shirley was to take it by surprise. It was his plan of surprise that the deacon disclosed prematurely in his prayers for success. The military and naval operations, which were ultimately successful, may be read in the many Colonial histories now accessible. Our more immediate object in this article is to reach the subjects of of the fisheries and of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854. The abrogation of which is now, in 1864, demanded by some of the States bordering on Canada and on New Brunswick.

On the part of British North America, it has been alleged that the Treaty of Reciprocity in the matter of the fisheries has given more to the United States than they have conceded in return. Wherever the balance of advantages may lie, the Treaty has so far been productive of international harmony, or at least it has been the concomitant of peace. The embers of future trouble smoulder in the direction of Cape Breton. The desire to possess the northern fisheries influenced more than anything else the policy of the Thirteen Colonies. It moulded and directed their warlike expeditions. Though that against Louisburg went forth under the banners of "Christ our Leader," and Boston preachers of peace and love accompanied it singing psalms, and carrying hammers to demolish the images of Romish saints in the French churches of Louisburg, the intended exploit was essentially secular and commercial. The sack and plunder of the town had been held out as inducement to New England volunteers who could not be reached by the religious sentiment. The destruction of Popish churches was held out as an inducement to Iconoclasts, and Muscular Christians. Sir William Pepperill led that extraordinary combination of mechanics, farmers, and fishermen; and well leader and led knew that the real object was not to reduce a stronghold of Roman Catholicism, but to capture a Castle and fortified harbor from whence issued armed cruisers, disturbing them in those fishings which through the merchants of Boston found their profitable markets in the Catholic countries of Europe.

They were not fighting for a French walled town which was of little intrinsic value when they had got it, but for the undisturbed use of the richest fisheries in the world, extending from Hudson's Bay to the Bay of Fundy, embracing ten thousand miles of cloven and indented sea line, with banks larger than European kingdoms, bays and rivers innumerable, and which were annually replenished by the natural laws of the Creator with fish of many varieties, tempting to the

instincts of commerce. Of these were whales, seals, cod, halibut, haddock, pollock, shad, mackerel, herring and capelin, besides myriads of smaller fish.

These treasures of the deep were what the New England Colonists fought for when they reduced the Castle of Louisburg. Over those fisheries the diplomatists of the States have kept a watchful eye ever since the revolutionary war of 1775—81, which gave them nationality.

"Daniel Webster," we quote an American writer, "knew what he was talking about, when at the risk of a war with Great Britain he declared his intention to protect the people of Gloucester and Cape Cod in the use of these Fisheries, hook and line, bob and sinker! He knew, as we all know now, that the commercial interests of this country, of Maine and New England more especially, rested primarily on the use of these invaluable Fisheries."

By the declaration of independence and revolutionary war, the New Englanders separated themselves from the Territories to which the Northern Fisheries belonged. They drove into exile large bodies of United Empire Loyalists who had refused to wage war against Britain, that Mother country whose arms had been repeatedly engaged on land and sea to secure to New England colonies safety and sea-going privileges against the French; Those exiles carried energy, enterprise and industrial life into the lands whose shores extend into the great fishery waters. By all the rights of nations, rights of nature, rights of treaties and international law, the Fisheries now belong to Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, except so far as other nations have been permitted by treaty to enter upon those waters. France has a sea-going population of from twelve to fifteen thousand men employed on the North American seas. In all the vicissitudes of domestic government, of the old Bourbon era, of Revolution, Reign of Terror, Directory, Empire, war, five and twenty years of war, restored Bourbons, "Three Days" of 1830, limited Kingship of the Orleansists, revolution and Republic of 1849, and now in the iron-handed Empire of Louis Napoleon, France has not ceased to send forth her fishery fleets to North American waters. In all the transformations of her political systems, bounties to the Fisheries have entered into her national economy. In all her diplomatic relations with Great Britain, affecting fishery rights, the aim of France, at nursing a hardy sea-going population for her navy, has been steady and true to that cardinal point.

The lines of British colonial occupation on the territories claiming, by natural and national law, the fisheries affected by the Reciprocity Treaty, extend from the Moravian settlements on the coast of Labrador to Quebec, and from Quebec all round Lower Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, to the St. Croix, including the Magdalens and the great islands of Anticosta, Prince Edward and Newfoundland. The right to the Fisheries around those shores was enjoyed exclusively by the British American colonists, except such privateers as were held by subjects of France, until 1854. American politicians did not attempt to dispute those British colonial rights on any question of law; but American citizens invaded the in-shore fisheries. Armed vessels of Britain were sent to drive them off, and United States men-of-war steamed down to know the reason why. And then came spicy diplomatic notes and strong probabilities of a dead lock or of a war. The dead lock and the war were averted by the Treaty of Reciprocity, by which Americans were permitted to use the fisheries as their own.

If they abrogate the treaty of 1854, are they willing to retire within their own salt-water boundaries? If not willing, what then?

The Island of Prince Edward, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and New Brunswick, have each a company of naval volunteers. If Lower Canada has provided any such force, it is of the modest dimensions which the public eye cannot discern. The great lakes and the St. Lawrence down to Montreal—two thousand miles of Canadian shores—with about four thousand lake and river sailors, engineers and firemen have yielded—how many? Only fifty-five at Burlington Bay and fifty-five at Toronto. Both of those companies were put in uniform in 1863, and drilled at the cost of their officers. The Canadian government has re-imbursed the Toronto Captain for his expenditure. It has not done the same, nor paid anything to the Hamilton naval volunteers. Rightly or wrongly the officers of the latter believe that the reason of this preference is, that the Toronto Captain is a political supporter of the Ministry of Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald, while the Burlington Bay Captain has been politically an adherent of the party now in opposition. It is further stated that the fault in the one case, the merit in the other, lies with the respective city members. The Toronto members have obtained payment for their naval volunteers, the Hamilton member has not done the same for the sailors of Burlington Bay. The first are in most part city clerks, or young men whose aquatic experi-