

and dry Fish on certain parts of the Coasts of this Island, is, I have reason to hope and to believe, now engaging the attention of the two Governments, with a view to some revision of the existing arrangements;—but, in connexion with this question, there is another matter of great importance to which I would call your attention, viz. the *Bank Fishery*.—I shall lay before you documents having reference to this subject, and I shall be happy to concur with you in any measure which may tend to the revival of a Fishery of such interest to the Inhabitants of this Colony.—Having had an opportunity of visiting the Western Coast of this Island during the last Summer, I was forcibly struck with the condition of such British subjects as are in the habit of frequenting that fine part of Newfoundland, in respect not only to the settlement of individual differences and disputes arising among them, but of other more serious infringements of the Laws as affecting the security of life or property;—and although these persons are found beyond the limits of our Electoral and Judicial Districts, yet you will, I doubt not, concur with me in the opinion that British subjects wherever found, within the precincts of this Government as defined by Her Majesty's Commission to its Governor, are entitled to such legal protection as can be conveniently extended to them. I am aware that it would be desirable to connect any arrangement for this purpose with one for the collection of Imposts on dutiable articles imported and consumed by them—but as circumstances do not yet admit of the formation of such Establishments in that part of the Island, I confine my suggestions for the present to a reasonable provision for a Stipendiary Magistrate and a few paid Constables—the services of the former embracing both the Western Coast of Newfoundland and the settlements on the opposite coast of Labrador—a reasonable allowance being made for providing the occasional means of conveyance between the two coasts.

Speech.

I shall also lay before you a further Report of the Criminal Law Commissioners, in which you will, I am persuaded, recognise additional evidence of the intelligence and industry which have been brought to bear by them upon this very important subject.

This being the third Session and year of the Provisional Constitution under which we are now assembled, and the duration of which is limited to four years, I deem it proper to invite your consideration of a measure which I am induced to regard as an indispensable preliminary and basis of any renewed Legislation upon this deeply interesting and important subject—I refer to a Census of the population of this Island—and although this is usually regarded as a Decennial measure, you will, nevertheless, I doubt not, agree with me that the circumstance to which I have adverted will abundantly warrant an anticipation of it by a single year—A Bill on this subject will accordingly be presented to you.

Several Despatches from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies will be laid before you, including one which will, I am sure, be received by you with feelings of the most loyal satisfaction—I refer to that announcing the increased happiness which has been afforded to our beloved Sovereign, and in which the whole British people have warmly participated, by the birth of another Prince.

*Mr. Speaker, Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen:—*

The accounts of the receipts and disbursements of the public funds during the past year will be laid before you, together with the usual estimates for the services of the ensuing year, for which I confidently rely on your cheerfully making due provision, as well as for such grants as may appear to be requisite for carry-