

while they were in an actual minority of 950, without the existence of any difference in the qualification of either set of electors.

We would respectfully remind you, that the right of self-government has been affirmed by three distinct Houses of Assembly in Newfoundland, two-fifths of one of these were nominees of the Crown; that according to the expressed opinions of the Members of Her Majesty's present government, that resolution must be regarded as the emanation of the only legitimate organ of public opinion in the colony; and that, having implicit confidence in the equal justice of their colonial policy, it is our sole desire, that the cause we advocate for a loyal people of thoroughly British origin, should rest upon the "broad and solid principles of truth and justice," practically demonstrated by the present ministry towards the colonies, and avowed by several previous Colonial Ministers, particularly by Earl Grey, in a despatch to the Right honourable Sir H. Pottinger, of the 2d November 1846, with reference to the Cape of Good Hope, wherein his Lordship states, that "without anticipating the views which you may form in communicating with the colonists, best qualified to afford you their aid, I, for the present, confine myself to the statement, that on a question of this nature, some difficulties may be wisely encountered, and some apparent risks well incurred in reliance on the resources, which every civilized society, especially every society of British birth or origin, will always discover within themselves, for obviating the danger incident to measures resting on any broad and solid principle of truth and justice. On such a basis, as I am convinced rests the policy of entrusting the remote dependencies of a metropolitan state with the largest powers of self-government, in whatever relates to their internal and local affairs." * * * "I have ever been a convert to the opinion that, so soon as it is practicable, our colonies should be placed upon a footing of equality with the parent country, as tending to render them far sooner, and to a much greater degree useful to Her Majesty's dominions generally, by adding to their power and mutually cementing their union. There is a current conducting to liberal measures, which is progressing quietly but irresistibly, and can neither be stemmed, nor ultimately averted; and as the Attorney-general remarks, 'no privileges are so sure to be abused as principles wrung from reluctant hands.'"

In conclusion, we would remark that the people of Newfoundland have been wearied with anomalous and un-British constitutional experiments. If these have failed to give satisfaction, that only proves the superiority of the real principles of the British constitution, which have been tested for ages in the parent country, and have restored peace to your disturbed possessions; wherever they have been faithfully administered. They, therefore, anxiously desire to "be placed upon a footing of equality with the parent country and their sister colonies." If occasion should unfortunately arise, then would they prove their loyalty to the Crown, and their gratitude for justice at any sacrifice. But what motive can they have for peace, or how can they be expected to be contented, we would most respectfully suggest, under a system of government which so far discards their material interests as to attempt to sacrifice their staple pursuit to local monopolists, by opposing free trade with the United States, in the face of the various competition which they experienced from the subjects of France.

Frederick Peel, Esq., M.P., &c., &c.

We have, &c.
(signed) P. F. Little.
R. J. Parsons.

WE waited on Mr. Hume on the morning of the 10th August, for the purpose of determining on our future movements, but found that he had left home on business. In the course of the day we received the following note from him—

Bryanston-square, 10 August 1853.

"Mr. Hume presents his compliments to Mr. Little, and regrets that great press of business should have prevented him from seeing Mr. Little and Mr. Parsons this morning. Mr. Hume will be out of town all day to-morrow, but he, on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, will be glad to see Mr. Little and Mr. Parsons if they can favour him with a call.

"Mr. Hume sends Mr. Little a copy of the Duke of Newcastle's note to Mr. Hume, which he requests may be treated as private."

According to appointment, we met Mr. Hume, and having fully discussed the noble Secretary's letter to him, and the favourable position of our affairs, and satisfied ourselves that we had done all that was practicable, Mr. Hume entirely concurred in this view, and embodied his noble sentiments in the following excellent declaration of the rights of Newfoundland, and addressed to the Secretary of State—a document which, independently of all his other valuable services to the cause of our country, entitles him to the lasting gratitude of the colonists, whose sincere and well-tried friend he has proven himself to be upon more occasions than this:—

My Lord Duke,

Bryanston-square, 12 August 1853.

I HAVE seen Mr. Little and Mr. Parsons, deputies from Newfoundland, since the receipt of your letter to me of the 5th instant, and placing, as I do, perfect reliance on the desire on your Grace to place the valuable colony of Newfoundland on the same footing of responsible government as the other British North American colonies, and knowing that the Cabinet are