

After full discussion with his Lordship, and also among ourselves, we came to the unanimous conclusion that it would be for the interests of the several Colonies to sanction the Treaty, and we ventured to express our united opinions, that the Governments and Legislatures of the several Colonies would give the necessary legislative sanction to carry the Treaty into effect.

Lord Elgin concurred with us in opinion, that the Legislature of Canada should first consider and pass the required enactments, and that as the new Parliament of Canada would probably not meet before September, there would be no occasion for calling together the Legislatures of the other Colonies before their usual time of meeting.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

ED. B. CHANDLER,  
J. R. PARTELOW.

His Excellency Sir E. W. Head.

*Minute of Executive Council.*

The undersigned Members of the Executive Council of New Brunswick, in Committee of the whole, having had their attention directed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to the consideration of the nature and extent of the concessions which, on behalf of this Province, the Council would recommend to be made by Her Majesty's Government to the Government of the United States, in return for other concessions to be made by that Government, and having been requested by His Excellency to present a Report thereupon with as little delay as possible, have taken the several important matters submitted into their earnest consideration, and now have the honor to submit the following Report :—

1st. With reference to the Coast and River Fisheries of New Brunswick, the undersigned are clearly of opinion that any concession with respect to those, must be confined solely to the Sea Fisheries. The Fisheries in Rivers, Harbours, and Estuaries, must be reserved exclusively for the people of this Province, such being more or less in the nature of local and private rights, and subject to Municipal regulations.

With regard to Sea Fisheries, the undersigned desire to express their firm conviction of the vast importance and unlimited value of the Inshore Fisheries of New Brunswick, stretching for several hundreds of miles along its coasts, as well in the Bay of Fundy as in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Chaleur, where various descriptions of fish are to be found in almost unequalled abundance and perfection.

The people of the United States do not possess near their shores any Fisheries which can at all compare with those near the coasts of New Brunswick, and the markets of the United States are now almost wholly dependent for an adequate supply of certain kinds of fish, upon the inshore fishing grounds of New Brunswick, and the neighbouring Provinces.

The undersigned are decidedly of opinion that no concession which can be made by the Government of the United States to this Province, will be at all equivalent to throwing open its Fisheries to the Fishermen of the United States. But to promote more extended commercial intercourse with that country on the basis of Reciprocal Trade in certain commodities—to subserve the interests of other North American Colonies—to remove all causes for discussions and disagreements, and to encourage and maintain that good feeling which should ever prevail between people of different Nations dwelling in close proximity to each other, they would consent on behalf of this Province, in return for the concession to be made by the Government of the United States which are hereafter named, to admit American fishermen to a free participation with British subjects in the inshore Fisheries, and the Fisheries within Bays on the coast of New Brunswick, including permission to such American fishermen to land upon these coasts for the purpose of drying their nets and curing their fish, provided that in so doing they do not interfere with the owners of private property, or with the operations of British fishermen.

2nd. As the first consideration for this most valuable concession, the undersigned, on behalf of the Province, require that the Fishermen of New Brunswick should be admitted to a free participation with American Citizens in the inshore Fisheries, and Fisheries within the Bays on the coast of the United States, subject to the like conditions, limitations, and regulations, as should be imposed on American Fishermen in the waters of New Brunswick; and further, that all Fish, and other products of the Sea, caught and cured by New Brunswick Fishermen, should be admitted free of duty on importation into the United States.

3rd.