

Encl. 1 in No. 6.

Enclosure 1 in No. 6.

Chamber of Commerce, St. John's, Newfoundland,
June 25, 1853.

SIR,

I HAVE had the honour to receive, and have laid before the Commercial Society, your letter of the 21st instant, stating that his Excellency the Governor "will be glad to be enabled to convey to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle the views and wishes of the Society on the subject of the establishment of reciprocal free trade between this colony and the United States of America."

And I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency, that the Society, having fully considered the matter, are of opinion, with reference to free trade with the United States, that as imports from that country are now admitted upon the same terms as from Great Britain and elsewhere, at a duty of about 5 per cent. (collected solely for the purpose of revenue), whilst the produce of our fisheries are subject to a duty of 20 per cent. on admission into the United States, it is desirable that in any commercial Treaty entered into between the Government of the United States and Great Britain, the interests of this colony should be so far protected that goods imported from each country should be received at the same rate of duty.

That the views of the American Government should be obtained from our Minister at Washington, in order that the Society may more fully understand what they propose in reference to this colony, that the same may be more fully considered before any definite arrangement be entered into.

That the prosperity of Newfoundland depending on her fisheries, it would be impolitic and unwise to admit any foreign Power to a participation therein further than has already unfortunately been done.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

PETER MCBRIDE,

President, Chamber of Commerce.

Hon. James Crowdy,
&c. &c. &c.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 6.

TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, HER MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

May it please your Grace,

AT a public meeting of the inhabitants of this town, held on the 27th instant, to consider the question of reciprocal free trade between the United States and this colony, the following resolution was unanimously passed, and ordered to be transmitted to your Grace:—

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that it would conduce to the welfare and prosperity of this colony to have free and unrestricted commercial relations with the United States of America, on the principles unanimously affirmed by the House of Assembly; and that it would be seriously detrimental to the interests of Newfoundland if any arrangement be carried out between the British North American colonies and the States, in which this island is not included.

By order and on behalf of the meeting,

(Signed)

AMBROSE SHEA, Chairman.
G. HOGSITT, Secretary.St. John's, Newfoundland,
28th June, 1853.

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Enclosure 3 in No. 6.

TO HIS GRACE THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, HER MAJESTY'S
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

May it please your Grace,

THE House of Assembly of Newfoundland, in Legislative Session convened, beg leave respectfully to inform your Grace, that they have, during the present Session, appointed Philip S. Little, George H. Emerson, and Robert John Parsons, Esqrs., members of their body, as delegates, with power to any two of those gentlemen to represent to Her Majesty's Government the state of this colony, and the operation of its present system of Government, its fitness for responsible Government, and the opinions and desires of the people on these subjects, and also upon the establishment of reciprocal free trade between this colony and the United States of America.

The House of Assembly desiring nothing more than justice for the people, and a fair opportunity of placing before the Imperial Government both sides of the questions at issue between the local Executive and the people in their true light, consented during the present Session to an appropriation to defray the expenses of delegates from Her Majesty's Council in this colony, and also from the Assembly; but this proposition was twice rejected by the Council.