

The Imports and Exports for the last two years were :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Duties.
1851—	£1,421 3 7	£ 4,895 8 4	£111 11 0
1852—	3,248 17 10	11,096 3 6	303 4 6

Our fisheries on Lake Superior ought, if possible, to be protected from the encroachment of our neighbours. That part of the Province will, by the aid of the mines and fisheries, make rapid progress. Prisons and Courts of Justice, both Civil and Criminal, should be established at certain distant stations, out of the Consolidated Revenue, for the benefit of the settlers residing in parts remote from the chief Towns of their several Districts, who are frequently injured by persons against whom they are unable to obtain a remedy, on account of the remoteness of the power from which they might hope for suitable redress and protection.

Your Committee likewise lay before Your Honorable House, the evidence and the plans which they have procured, in order the better to enable Honorable Members to form their judgment of the resources and the wants of these two extremities of the Province.

The whole, nevertheless, submitted.

(Signed,) C. J. FOURNIER,
Chairman.

“ JOHN PRINCE,
“ DESALES LATERRIERE, M. P.
“ ROBERT CHRISTIE.

MAGDALEN ISLANDS,
21st October, 1852.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your circular dated 9th September, and hastily submit a few suggestions in reply to same, which, if carried into effect, might prove as beneficial to the inhabitants of these Islands as to the Province of Canada, generally.

The Seal and Cod Fisheries of the Magdalen Islands are its staple article of export, and both of which, I am sorry to say, are in a very languishing state; the people engaged in them are yearly lacking energy. The Merchants who afford them supplies to carry on this half expiring trade, are also forsaking the business, and consequently a great portion of the trade is falling into the merchants and traders on the Labrador Coast. This is an evil which ought to be remedied. Turn again to the Seal Fishery, a branch of trade capable of being increased to a very large extent—yet at present, from the repeated failures in the sealing season, to be attributed, in fact, to the miserable description of vessels that follow the business, it is almost becoming a dead letter. There is also a valuable Mackarel Fishery around these Islands, (carried on with much enterprize by the Americans) yet for fear of loss by following the pursuit, not a single vessel of the Islands are engaged in it. To remedy all this I would say, grant a bounty on the Cod, Seal and Mackarel Fishery—give to the inhabitants (who have bone and sinew equal to any race of people under the sun,) a little encouragement, prop up these expiring yet valuable branches of commerce, and you would soon see great resources daily developing themselves.

I would say £1000 judiciously expended in the shape of bounties to the vessels employed in the Seal, Cod and Mackarel Fisheries. Imitate the Americans, and give a tonnage bounty of 20s. per ton on all vessels engaged in the above pursuits for the season, and I hesitate not to say that after a very short