

29th May, 1861.

His Excellency Sir Alexander Bannerman, Knight, Governor.

The Honorable the PRESIDENT, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, laid upon the table of the House the following Message:

A. BANNERMAN, *Governor.*

A discussion arose in the Legislature, the Session before last, relative to the Norway Fisheries, and the apprehension of a large competition of Norway Codfish in the markets of Spain, &c., which would greatly interfere with, and be prejudicial to the Newfoundland Fisheries; particularly as it was alleged the Norway Codfish were cured in a very superior way to the Codfish of this Colony.

Message and Documents from His Excellency the Governor laid on the table.

The Governor applied to the Board of Trade for information, and herewith sends to the Legislative Council an extract from the Consul General's Report on the Trade of Norway, which cannot fail to be interesting to every one who takes an interest in the Fisheries, showing as it does the manner in which the industrious Norwegians prosecute that important branch of Trade, their knowledge of the seasons when fish frequent their coast, and the care which is taken by their Government that they shall have a Maritime Police.

The *Stock* fish, described in the enclosed abstract, is a very inferior one to the Cod; it is dried in the sun until it is as hard as a stick, and it is easily portable, and carried by mules into the interior of Spain.

The Governor expects very soon to receive some of the Norway dried Cod, and it is certainly very desirable that the Newfoundland Fishermen should take every pains in the curing of their fish, for it is quite evident the best cured fish must always secure the highest price in the markets; and, in confirmation of this the enclosed extract will show what has taken place in Norway from the inferior mode in which Herrings are cured there.

Government House, 28th May, 1861.

Also, Extract of Report of Mr. Crowe, Acting Consul General at Christiana, on same subject, and Trade of Norway for the years 1855-56-57:

Vide Appendix.

Which were severally read by the Clerk, and, on motion of the Hon. Mr. STABB, ordered

To be printed for the use of Members.