

the Executive in giving that protection to life and property, which is the first consideration of Government in all civilised communities.

The failure of our Codfishery, combined with the baneful effects of Civil War in America on the employment of the people in the Herring Fishery to the Southward and Westward of the Island, has resulted in the wide-spread pauperism which on this and the last year visited the Colony; it is, indeed, a matter of serious consideration for the Legislature. We are happy to learn, however, that the Government have, in the meantime, done all in their power to check its influence, by an inspection of the claims of each applicant, by relieving only those who were actually in want, and by making all who could, give work in return for the relief afforded them.

We thank Your Excellency for the appointment of a Local Commission to make arrangements for the representation of this Colony at the International Exhibition, to be held in May next, and we trust that the representation of this important Colony at the great World's Fair, may not be unproductive of solid and lasting benefits to its inhabitants, but that this display of our mineral wealth and our industrial resources, may draw the attention of Capitalists to the Island, and be the means of developing our resources and giving labour to our redundant population, at seasons and under circumstances when other employment is not attainable.

The loss of Local Steam is deeply felt throughout the Island, and we trust that the Executive will do its utmost to obtain again for us this great and inestimable boon, appreciated as it is by every class throughout the Country.

The advantages which this fine Harbor possesses, both from its formation, its geographical position as the nearest North American port to Britain, and also from its Telegraphic connection with the United States, we trust may induce that enterprising Company, whose steamships have hitherto made St. John's a port of call, again to send their vessels here *en route* for Galway or New York.

We fully agree with Your Excellency that the further development of our agricultural resources, would to a considerable extent, check the growing evil of pauperism, and would, render the homes of our hardy fishermen more comfortable, and put them altogether in better circumstances than at present, depending almost solely as they do on a precarious fishery.