

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The following is copy of Petition presented to the House by Mr. Prendergast, on Thursday last, from certain inhabitants of Conception Bay, praying for the enactment of some Rules for the carrying on of the Bultow Fishery in that Bay:—

TO THE HONORABLE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

*The Petition of the Planters, Fishermen, and others, interested in the Fishery of Conception Bay,—*

WOULD HUMBLY SHOW:—

That in the latter part of the Summer of 1845, Messrs. John George and George W. R. Hierlihy introduced a method of Fishing at Bryant's Cove, in this Bay, hitherto unknown in our Waters, something similar to that used by the French on the Banks, called by them the "Set Line," and by the Inhabitants "Bultow," from its resemblance to the French,—it being a number of hooks fastened, by means of seds, to a line which is stretched along the bottom, and kept at any desired distance from it by means of lines, fastened to the main line and leading to the surface, where they are kept by floats, the whole being moored as the nets generally are,—only the Set Line is set without being disturbed during the Fishery, except for the purpose of baiting. The Messrs. Hierlihy set out one fleet of about One Hundred hooks in the summer above named, and in a few days two other fleets were set out by persons who had seen the number and superior quality of Fish taken by the Messrs. Hierlihy. In the beginning of the present Summer last past there were eight fleets in Bryant's Cove and two in the Harbor Grace waters, which proved so advantageous that, before the end of the Fishery, there were Seventy-five, some of which were Three Hundred Fathoms long, in Bryant's Cove, and several in other parts of the neighbouring waters; but previous to that time, the Fishery all over the Bay seemed to threaten a failure, there being none taken of any account but what the Bultow took. Some evil disposed persons persuaded the hand-line fishermen that if the Bultow was taken up they would catch fish; and consequently, some Sixteen or Twenty persons, two thirds of whom did not fish in Bryant's Cove ground, landed Eleven Bultows in Bryant's Cove, who were cited before the Court. Your Petitioners would, therefore, humbly show, that the Set Line, or Bultow, is the best method of Fishery ever introduced into these waters, as it is less expense to fit out and attend a fleet of Set Lines, than it is to fit out and keep a skiff in repair; a set line will last three years, and, with care, longer, and the total expense is Fifty Shillings for fitting out one gross of hooks; and besides, the fish taken on the Bultow, are generally a larger run than those taken by the hand-line; the Set Line or Bultow is never moored for the season until the fish move out in the fall into deep water; they are left in the evening baited, and if the fish pass in the night they hook on; it was a common thing last summer for one or a half quintal to be taken off a gross of hooks during the process of baiting in the morning; and further advantage is, the Bultow, if the fisherman leaves it baited properly in the morning, it is fishing for him whilst he is at work in his garden; whereas, by the old method, if he was not on the ground he could not expect fish; now, he leaves his Bultow to fish, goes to his employment, knowing if the fish rise to eat, he has as good a chance, if not better, than his neighbour, who is in his boat on the ground, and not able, like him, to look after his crops.

Your Petitioners therefore pray Your Honorable House to cause the following Rules, or something like them, to pass into law, as, like all new inventions, the Set Line or Bultow has to struggle against many hindrances from ignorance, and bigotry to the old method; yet, as your Petitioners have endeavoured to show, the Bultow has proved itself what may fully be termed, "the poor man's friend."

**RULE 1st.**—That the fishing grounds be divided into two parts, one for the Bultow, the other for the hand line fishermen. To take Bryant's Cove for instance,—a line drawn from Sword Point to the outer Southern Rock, at Harbor Grace Island, let the Bultow be to the North, and the fishing boats to the South, of said line.

**RULE 2nd.**—That the Bultows be set at parallels with, or on and off the Shore, as the ground may permit, but in all cases parallel with each other, and so as they will not get foul, so as to take up as little ground as possible.

**RULE 3rd.**—That a person may be appointed to see the above put and kept in force, and one that is conversant with the method; so as to instruct those who would wish to make use of the Bultow, but are hindered by ignorance of its structure.

In the above Rules your Petitioners do not presume to dictate to your Honorable House; but as this mode of fishery is, to many of your Honorable House, unknown, your Petitioners therefore barely touch the main points, confident, if they are carried into effect, there will be no cause of disagreement between any parties, but that, in three years, the boats, throughout the Island Shore Fishery, will give place to the Bultow, as they already have in Bryant's Cove. Your Petitioners again pray the above Rules or something like them be passed into law.

And, as in duty bound, &c.

Signed by J. G. HIERLIHY,

(And Seventy-nine others.)

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ESTIMATE

OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY ON THE 30TH JUNE, 1847.

APPROPRIATIONS.	Sums for which the Colony is liable.	Sums which will probably be called for before 30th June.
Of former Appropriations, - - -	£12,300 0 0	£10,000 0 0
Education, - - - - -	3,900 0 0	3,900 0 0
Salaries by Special Acts, - - -	4,535 0 0	4,535 0 0
Colonial Customs' Salaries, - - -	800 0 0	800 0 0
Grammar Schools, - - - - -	500 0 0	500 0 0
Contingencies Legislature, - - -	3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0
Interest on Loans, - - - - -	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0
Road Grants, - - - - -	10,000 0 0	5,000 0 0
	£36,535 0 0	£29,235 0 0

Balance in Treasury - - - - -	£4,059 12 3½
Bonds not yet due - - - - -	6,129 0 11
Estimated Revenue to 5th July, 1847	22,500 0 0
	£32,688 13 2½

PATRICK MORRIS,  
Colonial Treasurer.

HIGHLY INTERESTING INTELLIGENCE FROM MEXICO.

*The Armistice—Correspondence between General Taylor and Santa Anna—The public views of the Mexican General—Naval and Military Preparations, &c.*

We received yesterday papers from the city of Mexico to the 17th of November—full two weeks later than our previous advices from the capital.

One of the first things we notice in the papers, is a correspondence between General Taylor and Santa Anna, in relation to the termination of the armistice. Out of this correspondence proceeded the release of seven American prisoners who were with the army at San Luis.—This correspondence is interesting and important.

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION, Monterey, Nov. 5, 1846.

SIR.—In the convention agreed upon on the 24th of September it was conceded that the American forces should not pass a stipulated line before the expiration of eight weeks, or until they should receive orders or instructions from their Government. In conformity therewith I have the honor of apprising you that my Government has directed me to terminate the suspension of hostilities, and accordingly I consider myself at liberty to pass the designated line after the 13th instant, by which date I presume this communication will reach your hands at San Luis Potosi.

I have been informed that several Americans, who were taken prisoners at China and other points, are now at San Luis, detained as such. I trust you will deem it an act of justice to release these men, and allow them to rejoin the forces under my command.

When the convention was entered into to which I have referred, I entertained the hope that the terms in which it was conceived would open the way for the two Republics to agree upon an honorable peace; and, acting upon this conviction, I at once released the prisoners of war who were in my power among whom were three officers. At that time I did not know that there were any American prisoners who had been sent into the interior. I trust that my conduct will be deemed a sufficient ground to justify you in yielding to this request, and to the dictates of humanity towards the American prisoners, who, I am told, are at San Luis.

In case Major Graham, the bearer of this communication, reaches your head quarters, I take the liberty to commend him to your courtesy, and I shall be pleased to receive by him your reply to this communication, whatever it may be. I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,

Major Gen. of the Army of the U. States  
To General D. ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA, Commander-in-Chief, *liberating* REPUBLICAN ARMY,  
San Luis Potosi, Nov. 10, 1846.

Senor General—At 10 this morning, by an

official communication of the governor of Ce- ahulla, of the 8th inst., I received your letter of the 5th, apprising me of your intention, by order of your government, of breaking the convention agreed upon at Monterey, on the 24th of September last, and passing on the 13th of the present month the line therein designated, by which date you supposed I should receive your communication.

Believing that the terms stipulated in said convention should be religiously observed by both parties, I had taken no step which should tend to vacate it; but in view of the obligation you deem imposed upon you by the orders of your government, I confine myself by replying, that you can, when it pleases you, commence hostilities, to which I shall correspond accordingly.

In regard to the American prisoners, let me say that there are only seven of them at this post, a list of whom is annexed; and, relying upon your representation in regard to the release of several Mexicans, I have determined to respond to your generosity by doing the same to the seven referred to, whom the commissary of this army will supply with \$70 for their sustenance upon the road.

You remark that when the convention was entered into at Monterey, you entertained the hope that the terms in which it was conceived would open the way for the two republics to agree upon an honorable peace. Laying out of question whether that convention was the result of necessity or of the noble views now disclosed by you, I content myself with saying, that from the spirit and decision manifested by all Mexicans, you should banish all idea of peace while a single North American in arms treads upon the territory of this republic, and there remains in front of its ports the squadrons which make war upon them. Nevertheless the extraordinary Congress will assemble in the capital towards the end of the present year, and this august body will determine what it shall judge most suitable for the honor and the interests of the nation.

Major Graham has not arrived at my quarters. Had he done so, he would have been received in a manner due to his rank and employment, and in conformity with the wishes expressed to me in his behalf by you.

I have the honor of offering you the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

God and liberty.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA,  
Senor Major General TAYLOR, General-in-Chief of the Army of the United States of the North.

The following is a list of the prisoners whom Sergeant Muriano Hernandez conducted to San Luis Potosi, and who have been set at liberty by Gen. Santa Anna:—  
Charles W. Tufts, Henry P. Lyon,  
John Hartman, James Q. Read,  
Edward F. Feeny, Elisha Peatt,  
Thomas Gillespie.

It is probable there may be some slight inaccuracy in the above names; two of the men thus saved were Texans, who, it was supposed at Monterey among their comrades were dead.