

policy. At the same time it is my duty to inform you, that though I believe that Canada would cheerfully make any sacrifice to obtain the reciprocal interchange of her productions with the United States, a very deep feeling of resentment would pervade the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, if that were obtained at the sacrifice of their interests.

The Law Officers of the Crown in England have recently decided that within three miles of the coast the jurisdiction of the Provincial Governments and Legislatures legally and constitutionally extends.

Whatever may be decided, then, as respects the "bays," these rights ought not to be varied or compromised but with the consent of the parties concerned, and the equivalents to be given in exchange for rights of property so highly valued should rest upon no vague promises or indeterminate action of any member of Congress, but should be yielded and secured by the same instrument that made the concession.

By reference to the report, a copy of which I inclose, you will see how vast are the interests, provincial and national, involved in this question of the fisheries.

The Government of this Province has in 1851 evinced its readiness—

1st. To exchange with the United States the productions of the soil alone.

2nd. To exchange the produce of the sea, the forest, and the mine.

3rd. To yield the close fishery whatever might be the true construction of the Convention, provided we obtained the abolition of the bounties, the registry of ships, and the same privilege on the coasts of the United States that we surrender on our own.

To avoid all cause of embarrassment to Lord Clarendon, I would respectfully suggest, that should war break out we might possibly avoid collisions by suspending operations on the fishing-grounds for a year, or by stringent instructions to the officers employed.

Should Mr. Andrews, who is known to the members of my Government, come here, I shall be glad to discuss the whole subject with him; and should there seem to be a necessity for it, I will send some gentleman having my confidence to confer with you personally after the close of the Legislative session.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. GASPARD I. E. MARCHANT.

No. 239.

Mr. Addington to Mr. Robert Milligan, M.P.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 11, 1854.

THE Earl of Clarendon having forwarded to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington a copy of the Memorial from the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, inclosed in your letter of the 8th of December last, I am directed by his Lordship to acquaint you, that Mr. Crampton has supported the prayer of the Memorial; and that the question of a reduction of duty on British worsted goods has been referred to the consideration of the United States' Secretary of the Treasury.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. U. ADDINGTON.

No. 240.

Circular to Her Majesty's Ministers abroad.

Foreign Office, March 13, 1854.

HER Majesty's Government having introduced into Parliament a bill for opening the coasting trade of the United Kingdom to the ships of all nations, they are desirous of calling the attention of foreign Governments to the advan-