

rights occurred, and now of great and increasing importance to some thousands of British subjects settled on the coasts over which the French Treaty rights extend.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed)

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

The Right Honorable,

LORD KNUTSFORD, G. C. M. G., &c.

In the Session of 1889 a Joint Committee of both branches of the Legislature was appointed for the purpose of considering the subject of British rights and French claims on that part of the Coast of Newfoundland on which the French have fishery privileges. This Committee presented a report, upon which the following Address to Her Majesty the Queen was adopted, which contains a full and clear expression of the position which the Colony assumes on the question of the Lobster industry. The text of the Address is as follows:—

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,—

We Your Majesty's humble and devoted subjects, the Legislative Council and the Commons House of Assembly of Newfoundland, beg to approach Your Majesty with an expression of our loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty's person and Throne.

Upon us, as branches of the Colonial Legislature, has devolved the duty of considering the subject of British rights and French claims on that portion of the Coast of Newfoundland on which the French have certain fishery privileges, in special reference to certain claims asserted by subjects of France in the year 1888, in respect to the taking and preserving of Lobsters.

The claims of the French, in this behalf, have been now made for the first time.

The facts surrounding these new claims are set forth in certain correspondence, which has been brought before us as a Legislature, which correspondence has already been a matter of consideration for Your Majesty's Ministers, and has formed a subject of diplomatic communication between Your Majesty's Ministers and the Government of France.

This correspondence has reference to the grievances complained of by two of Your Majesty's subjects, one Murphy and one Andrews, who during the fishery season of 1888, were lawfully engaged in the prosecution of their business of taking and canning Lobsters at a place called Hauling Point, in White Bay, on the North East Coast of Newfoundland.