

By special appointment, on the 4th July (accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Crowdy) I waited on the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and had a most gracious reception. I called His Lordship's attention to some of the leading points in the Memorial to the Queen, and especially to the want of protection to our Western Fisheries against the injurious encroachments of the French. To this Earl Grey replied that the views of Her Majesty's Government on the question of Free Trade might prevent any interference in this matter ; but he stated his intention of consulting with the First Lord of the Admiralty, when all that attention would be given to the subject which its importance demanded. His Lordship's attention was also called to the existing Treaties with France, and the injury we sustained by the infringements of the same, which were of annual recurrence. I spoke of the strong feeling of the Legislature on the subject, and of their great desire that the conditions of the Treaties should be enforced. On these, and other subjects of Colonial interest, His Lordship made several inquiries, and received, in some cases, information which he had not before possessed.

I had subsequently an interview with the Under Secretary of State, when the condition of the Fisheries, chiefly with reference to French competition, was again urged on the attention of Government ; and the fact of our being compelled to abandon the Deep-sea Fishery, was one which especially attracted the attention of Mr. Hawes, and elicited from that gentleman many important inquiries. I had just obtained the *Public Ledger*, of the 22nd June, containing the editorials of that and the other public journals relative to the Fisheries, called forth by an interesting letter published by Mr. C. F. Bennett, and this I handed to Mr. Hawes as an evidence of the unanimous opinion on the subject. On all points referred to in this interview, I was led to believe that he entertained sound, practical views of our position, and that when the question is considered, we may expect much benefit from his able and enlightened advocacy.

I had the advantage of an introduction from His Excellency the Governor to his brother, Sir Denis LeMarchant, Secretary of the Board of Trade, who expressed a deep interest in our affairs, and afforded me much assistance in obtaining for me a more ready access to the Public Offices. And I would here also desire to express my obligation to the Right Hon. Talbot Baines for much valuable aid of a similar character.

A well-known friend of Newfoundland, John Hatt Noble, Esq., formerly of Oporto, also afforded me many facilities in promoting the views of the Assembly, and his thorough acquaintance with the Trade rendered his advice useful to me on several occasions.