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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., AUG. 7, 1902.

**NEW FOUNDLAND AND  
CANADA.**

The Gloucester, Massachusetts, Times comments on the prospect of the union of Newfoundland with Canada and warns Americans that the proposed union would do incalculable harm to the fishing industry of the United States. In the past, Newfoundland has not shown any great desire to unite with this country and Canada has offered no special inducements for her to do so. It has been felt that the benefits to be derived by this country from such a union would not be commensurate with the sacrifices that would necessarily have to be made to attain the result. There would, however, be no serious objections made by the people of Canada if Newfoundland expressed a willingness to enter confederation upon terms similar to those granted the other provinces. The Premier of Newfoundland in a recent speech in London put the matter in a nutshell when he said that the question of union between the two countries was simply a question of terms. The claim is made that Newfoundland is in a much different position from the provinces that have already entered the union and that therefore different and more liberal terms should be granted her. It seems rather strange that Premier Shedden, of New Zealand, should have brought up the matter and taken the opportunity he did to urge the ancient colony to cast in its lot with Canada, and the idea is suggested that he was acting upon a hint from the Imperial authorities who are said to look with favor upon the proposed union of the two countries. The Times presents one of the strongest arguments in favor of such a union in the article referred to which we have reproduced in this issue, and one which is worthy of consideration by Canadians as well as by the people of Newfoundland. No doubt this country would have to make sacrifices in order to meet the terms which would satisfy Newfoundland, but on the other hand would not the undivided control of the North Atlantic coast fisheries be well worth the sacrifices. The fear entertained by the Times that in such an event Canada would "put the screws on" by shutting out American fishermen from obtaining bait on the island is one we think which need not cause them unnecessary alarm. Canada has always in dealing with questions affecting

the United States, done so in a broad and statesmanlike spirit, and should the bait question ever arise, American fishermen will receive fair treatment from Canada notwithstanding the boorish treatment which Canadians often receive from United States officials across the line. It is quite likely therefore, that the bait privilege now enjoyed by American fishermen in Newfoundland would in the event of union be continued, but that the United States in return would be required to remove some of the restrictions which are placed on Canadian fish in American markets.

**CURLS VS. BISCUITS.**

An exchange rises to remark that the girl of the present day is more skilled in curling her hair than in baking biscuits. All of which may or may not be true. But—admitting that girls nowadays know more about beauty than biscuits, who wants to see a girl going about with her hair sticking straight out and her hands smeared with the dough of the biscuit? She may know how to make biscuit, but if she don't know how to curl her hair she loses half her charms. What does the editor of the exchange want? Does he want the girl of the present day to go after a man's stomach in her effort to win his heart? It cannot be possible that man has degenerated into a biscuit eating frost. There must be some love left in his heart even if a lot of it has emigrated to his stomach. It is a girl's or a woman's duty to her husband, her lover, to mankind, to make herself as modestly attractive as possible. She should improve all the charms that nature gave her if such a thing is possible by sensible methods. Who wants a pan of delicious biscuits shoved under his nose by a slovenly woman with her hair down and her shoes untied? Would it not be far more tempting if that same pan of delicious biscuit were placed before you by a girl or woman neatly dressed, hair curled, teeth washed, shoes tied, finger nails trimmed, clothing in order and a general air of neatness and sweetness around? Give us the girl that knows how to make herself attractive and we can teach her to make good biscuits. In the meantime, please pass the bread. We never were stuck on biscuits.

Another illustration of the truth of the proverb that silence is golden, is to be found in the case of General Bragg, American Consul, in Havana. General Bragg is an old soldier and has been in the habit of saying what he thinks and feels in plain Anglo-Saxon. This did very well until he was placed in a diplomatic position where certain restrictions are placed on a man's acts and utterances. The worthy general is apparently disgusted with the Cubans and their ways and methods, and in a letter to his wife he declared that "Uncle Sam might 'as well try to make a whistle out of a pig's tail as to do anything with these people." It was a private letter and intended only for the eyes of Mrs. Bragg, but unfortunately she had not received a training in diplomacy and was indiscreet enough to read the letter to her friends with the result that it soon became public property. Nothing so offends the Spanish as to couple them in any way with a pig and General Bragg's unfortunate reference to a pig's tail is quite likely to cost him his position. Another lesson to be learned

from the incident is that men in public positions should be convinced of the discretion of their wives before confiding in them too freely.

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**THE GLOUCESTER, MASS.,  
TIMES ON THE NEW-  
FOUNDLAND QUES-  
TION.**

"The question of union with Canada has again become a live one in Newfoundland, and some say that it will be carried to a successful issue this time. It is thought probable that Premier Bond and Sir Wilfrid Laurier will, while in London for the coronation, come to an agreement as to the terms on which the federation can be effected, and it is certain that Justice Morison, of Newfoundland, has resigned from the supreme court bench to re-enter politics and advocate union with their more powerful neighbors, as the practical policy for the island in the future.

"The likelihood of Newfoundland being absorbed by Canada cannot be regarded with indifference by Massachusetts. Such an outcome would create a very serious situation for the New England fisheries. The most important result of the union would be that

**THE UNDIVIDED CONTROL OF THE NORTH  
ATLANTIC COAST FISHERIES**

would be transferred to the federal administration at Ottawa. That administration's policy is hostile to New England, and the Boston and Gloucester fishing fleets would probably soon find themselves deprived of the right to enter Newfoundland and Nova Scotia waters to purchase bait which they now enjoy. It is scarcely necessary to remind New England readers that the present privilege to secure bait is conceded under a *modus vivendi* renewed from year to year, the United States vessels paying a license fee of \$1.50 per unit of register, and being then permitted to enter and buy bait fishes. But it may not be so readily grasped that the reason that the Americans enjoy this concession is that Newfoundland at the Quebec conference in 1898

**REFUSED TO BE A PARTY TO THE CANADIAN PROPOSALS,**

to exclude the Americans, unless they agreed to reciprocity in fish products. The Bond-Blaine convention of 1890 indicated the willingness of the United States to grant Newfoundland fishery reciprocity because Newfoundland had an unlimited supply of bait to offer the United States fishermen, and did not wish to send much of her own catch of cod into the American markets. Canada, on the other hand, had little or no bait to offer, while she had large stocks of cods with which she wished to flood the eastern states. Naturally, the United States would not trade on that basis, and Canada, in revenge, blocked the Bond-Blaine convention. When the Quebec conference met in 1898, Newfoundland insisted upon independent representation and secured it, and it was

**HER OUTSPOKEN INSISTENCE**

upon her own position that prevented the North American seaboard being closed to the fishermen of Gloucester and Boston. As an example of the value of Newfoundland's bait supply, not alone to the United States, but also to the Canadian vessels fishing on the Grand Banks, it is only necessary to point out that while 66 Gloucester schooners procured licenses in Newfoundland waters last season to buy bait, no less than 99 Canadian vessels did the same, so it will readily be seen what an immense boon it will be to the Dominion to obtain control—absolute and direct—of this important lever in controlling the deep sea fisheries of the North Atlantic. It is impossible to suppose then, in view of the well known attitude of the Ottawa Cabinet on this bait fishery question that Canada will refrain from "putting the screws on," if she can absorb this colony. That will mean that the New England fishermen must prepare themselves to face a completely altered situation. If they are forbidden access to the bait supplies

**THEIR INDUSTRY MUST BE CRIPPLED.**

If they concede reciprocity to Canada in fish products, the stocks of fish which will be sent from the maritime provinces (then including Newfoundland) will be so great as to compel a lowering of the price of the American caught article, and a corresponding decline in the profits of the American interests involved. Canada is

seeking new markets for her fish; the United States is doing the same; the power which holds possession of the bait supply, which alone makes the industry possible,

WILL BE ABLE TO DICTATE ITS OWN TERMS

to the other. Nor is this the worst phase of the subject. The winter herring fishery now almost exclusively controlled by the Americans, who go to Newfoundland every winter and carry away about \$250,000 worth of this fish, would then be closed to them also. The Canadians would seek to control it themselves, either by absolutely forbidding the Americans to engage it, or by imposing an export tax on herring shipped in foreign bottoms, which would assuredly compel the Americans to abandon the industry. The HERRING FISHERY IS ALMOST INDISPENSABLE TO THE ATLANTIC STATES,

because the herring are the main source of bait for the early fisheries on the southern banks, and also are in general demand as an article as far west as Chicago. The present American tariff which imposes a duty of half a cent a pound on all fish brought into United States ports in foreign bottoms, makes it impossible for Newfoundland or Canadian fishermen to engage in this industry under existing conditions, but should Newfoundland enter the Dominion, it would then be possible to turn the tables on the Americans and control the fishery from that end. The southern fishermen of Newfoundland who do the big trade with the Americans, are not desirous of any change, and will oppose confederation with all their might, but the fishermen on the east and north coast who have but little connection with the Yankee vessels are more eager for union, because they believe it will better their own condition. At the same time, if the United States fishermen are excluded from Newfoundland waters it will be a serious loss to the Newfoundland coast-folk, for the American schooners are constantly running in and out from the banks during the fishing season; they purchase bait, ice and stores in Newfoundland harbors; they crew their vessels in great part with Newfoundland men, and they spend their money generously. It is the same way with the frozen herring industry each winter. Placentia, Fortuna and Bay of Islands are enriched by a generous distribution of American gold, for not alone is the large sum expended in buying herring, but almost as much more is paid out for the handling of them, because the crews are too small for this and gangs of coast-folk have to be employed about the vessels. For these reasons the southern seaboard will oppose confederation, but the officials and governing classes favor it and the Canadians are unceasing in their efforts to bring it about, because they will not alone control the Newfoundland fisheries but also the Newfoundland market, which is worth \$7,000,000 a year, and which is now equally divided between Canada, United States and Great Britain."

**—Gloucester Times.**

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We are pleased to say that our school re-opens this term under the skillful tuition of Miss Leiseman of Chatham, N. B.

Miss Alma Warman who has been in Moncton for some time past, returned home on Monday being under the doctors care.

Miss Maud McPherson of Harcourt, visited her cousin Miss Tina McPherson, on Monday.

Miss Blanche Keith passed through town on her way to Richibucto on Monday.

Mr and Mrs. Robert Morton and Mrs. McIsaac of Acadieville, spent Sunday in town visiting friends.

Mr. H. English spent a few hours in town on Monday.

Mervin English returned home on Friday from Trout Brook, where he had been spending a few days.

Mr. Wathen (wife of our genial agent) is now in town and we gladly welcome her in our midst, and also hope that the climate will prove beneficial to Mr. Wathen's health while he is with us.

Mr. Melanson was in town on Monday.

We are pleased to hear that J. W. Morton's (our late station agent) health is rapidly improving and hope to be able to resume duties in the course of a few weeks.

Opr. Wood who was off on sick list for a few days has resumed his duties.

Mr. H. Wathen is now busily engaged in the blueberry business.

Mr. Charles Atkinson, I. C. R. agent, Charlo, spent a day in town last week visiting friends.

Mrs. Morton and Mrs. Owens of Acadieville, spent a day in town visiting relatives.

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