

and poor Mary continued still to give him a glass of toddy. One day he called in and told Mary that he was going away for a week—should return on Friday—and handed her a book containing the catechism, and told her when he returned he should expect her to be able to answer some of the questions. Mary says, 'Yes,' and laid away the book carefully. But Mary, like a good many other church members, thought no more of her book until the very Friday the good minister was to return.

'What shall I do?' says she, 'the minister is to be here to day, and I haven't looked into the book he gave me! How can I answer the question?'

'I can tell you,' says Adam. 'Give me a quarter and let me go over to Smith's and get some good rum, and you can answer his questions with a glass of toddy.'

Mary took the advice—gave Adam a quarter and a jug, and off he started. After getting his bottle filled, and on his way back Adam concluded to taste the rum. One taste followed another, until he stumbled over a pile of rocks, and broke the bottle and lost all the rum. But Adam managed to stagger home.

Soon as he got into the house, Mary inquired anxiously for the bottle of rum.

'Where is the bottle and rum, Adam?' Poor Adam managed to stammer out 'that he stumbled over a pile of stones, and broke the bottle and lost the rum.'

Mary was in a fix—Adam drunk—the minister coming—the rum gone, and the questions unlearned.

'But here comes minister. It won't do for the men of God to see Adam drunk,' so she, for the want of a better place to hide, sent him under the bed. By the time he was fairly under, in came the minister. After sitting a few moments, he asks Mary if she thought she could answer the question, how did Adam fall?

Mary turned her head first one way and then another—finally she stammered out—'He fell over a pile of rocks!'

It was now the minister's turn to look blank; but he ventured another question—'Where did he hide himself after the fall?'

Mary looked at the minister, then at the bed, but finally she out with it—'Under the bed, sir! Then, Adam, you may come out; he knows all about it.'

The good minister retired—not even waiting for his glass of toddy.

## WEDNESDAY'S MAIL.

### UNITED STATES.

*The Perils of the Sea.*—The steamship Pacific, Capt. Nye, left Liverpool on the 28th of last July, bound for New York, with about one hundred passengers, besides engineers, sailors, and servants, about 120 more. On the outward passage, to Liverpool, Capt. Nye discovered a difference in his compasses—the one in the binnacle differing from one on deck. On leaving Liverpool, an allowance was made for this difference, which proved correct; as the ship passed the Tuscar Light and Cape Clear at about the distance intended. The first 26 hours run was very favourable, being 327 miles—the second equally so, being 300 miles. On Friday, the third day out, being then entirely clear of Ireland, and on the broad Atlantic, a thick fog set in, which lasted until Monday, when we were enabled to get a good observation, and found the ship nine miles north of the great circle or latitude intended. The ship's course was then altered so as to place her on that circle line, and which would carry her about five or ten miles south of Cape Race.

On Wednesday morning, at 6 o'clock, it was supposed that we were about abreast of the Cape, and the officers and men forward were told to keep a good look out for land. At half past 8 the same morning, the sea being very smooth, the fog thick, a sudden call was made of "a boat along side!" The engines were ordered to be stopped, but before this could be done, the boat, in which were two men, was swept under our paddle wheels, and the two men instantly killed, fragments of the boat only being seen floating on the surface. By this time the engine was stopped, and the ships headway deadened; when, about the length of the ship ahead, a rock rose up as it were, out of the ocean, the top of which could not be seen.

The helm was ordered to the starboard, the ship rounded to, almost as it were on a pivot, our paddle boxes coming within about twenty feet of an immense rock, supposed to be from three to five hundred feet high, and about as long. Another boat, in which were five men, was soon seen around the projecting rock, which soon came down to us and told Capt. Nye our position—which was Cape Croyle, on the western end of Newfoundland, and twenty miles north of Cape Race. Our ship's head was then put to the southward, and after running on that course about thirty miles, it was changed to the westward. The imminent danger that we thus so providentially escaped, caused many a heart to beat with gratitude to the great disposer of events; so many lives with that noble ship having been saved by the sacrifice offered by the two men so suddenly called to eternity. It was the opinion of the passengers that they heard, through the fog, the noise of our paddle wheels, and put off from the land to warn us of our danger.—*Boston Transcript.*

*California.*—The Daniel Webster at New Orleans reports the Isthmus as being in a healthy condition, and the navigation of the San Juan without impediment. The pas-

sage was made from ocean to ocean in 43 hours.

Business at San Francisco continues good, and prices for most descriptions were without material change.

Several cases of lynching had occurred at Marysville, but no executions were reported. A man named Henderson, belonging to New York, was so severely whipped that his life was despaired of.

The gold diggings at St. Antonia have proved remarkably rich; many miners were averaging from thirty to forty dollars per day.

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1852.

### THE FISHERY QUESTION.

This controversy, which has of late figured so conspicuously in the American and Colonial Journals, and also claimed a large share of the attention of the British Press, is beginning to assume a more settled aspect. The report, however, of the adjustment of the "head-land" dispute we believe to be altogether incorrect. No definite agreement has as yet been entered into between the Governments of the United States and Great Britain—nor is there likely to be; the fact that the Home Government have despatched additional cruisers to the fishing grounds will warrant us in making this assertion. The fact is simply this: the excitement at first occasioned among our friendly neighbors by being given to understand that Great Britain intended to recognise the provisions of the Treaty in their strictest sense, has nearly altogether worn off.

Our oldest brother, Jonathan, when he found himself shut out from this great source of profit, naturally foamed and blustered a little, but he is gradually becoming more cool; and by and by when his "dander" shall have reached its usual level, he will perhaps be willing to offer us some return for a continuation of the privilege he lately so fully, though unjustly enjoyed. We always had a high opinion of Jonathan's cuteness; and we knew he would think twice before coming to an open rupture with John Bull on a dispute in which he knew, and is now beginning to acknowledge, himself to be in the wrong.

The American papers which at first were most virulent in their denunciations against the course pursued by the British Ministry, and their policy in reference to this question, are settling down into a more moderate tone, and are now taking a more impartial view of the matter. Those Journals which at first maintained more of a neutral position, are now willing to acknowledge the justice of the action of the British Government.

The New York Times of the 2nd inst. scouts the idea of the reported settlement. From that Journal we clip the following honest remarks:

It is stated with a show of authority, that the fishery dispute between Great Britain and the United States has been settled by a mutual agreement that the people of each country may fish anywhere, except within a distance of three marine leagues from the shore of the possessions of the other. It is difficult to believe that any such concession as this has been made by the British Ministry—for it is simply surrendering the whole case. As all the valuable North American fisheries are upon the British coast, the grant of liberty to the English to fish within three miles of the American shore amounts to nothing. The grant is of no value whatever, and the only substantial concession is on the other side.

Still, it is by no means impossible that the English Ministry has seen clearly that it cannot sustain the pretensions it has recently urged—to exclude American fishermen from the great bays and gulfs of the British coasts. The entire opposition press of England denounces the claim, and many papers, not regularly enlisted in the opposition ranks, consider the course of the Ministry to have been very ill timed and injudicious, although technically correct. Some of the liberal papers of England urge the propriety of abandoning all restrictions upon the fisheries, and throwing open the whole sea, even to the shore, to fishermen of both nations. They insist that anything short of this will be inconsistent with the spirit of the age and the general course of British legislation. This, we apprehend, is what will, ultimately, be asked by this country; and, in exchange for it, we think it not unlikely that reciprocal trade with the British colonies might be granted.

We copy the following from the same paper, communicated by Mr Robert Finlay, who piloted the Mississippi from Saint John:

When off the Pollock Rip the frigate was stopped, and one of the fishermen ordered to bring a boat load of fish alongside. When the captain of the schooner came on deck, he was asked by the Commodore if he was an American. He answered in the affirmative. He

was then ordered to produce his register and copy of the Treaty. He stated he had not the latter, and pleaded ignorance of the true nature of it. The Commodore told him that he (the fisherman) was well aware that his vessel was liable to seizure for neglecting to have the said copy on board, and that it was only a subterfuge resorted to by a set of unprincipled men, who thought they would be permitted to escape the justice of seizure by British cruisers, by pleading ignorance;—that he (the Commodore) had come upon the fishing grounds for the purpose of inquiring into the nature of the alleged grievances of the fishermen; that he was satisfied that in every instance where a seizure had been made, the treaty had been violated, and that he was determined that he himself would seize any American vessels he caught fishing within the line of demarcation prescribed in the treaty of 1818;—and seeing that the captain of the schooner displayed more shrewdness than ignorance, told him he would seize his vessel for not having the copy of the treaty, as he had no notion that any disagreement should arise between the two first nations in the world, through a display of ignorance on one part, and misrepresentation on another. On hearing this, the master of the schooner produced a rusty cannister from his pocket containing both his register and a copy of the treaty. Commodore Perry, with his well known urbanity, (after severely reprimanding the man) told him he would this time let him off, but ordered him to communicate to his brother fishermen his determination. He then purchased his fish, giving him the following advice:

You state that the steamers have caused the fish to run into the bays, thereby leaving you no chance of procuring any. By the tenor of the treaty you are permitted to go into any of the bays for supplies or shelter, but not to fish; if you cannot procure fish outside, you can go into the bays, and honestly purchase the fish which is the property of the British, have it brought outside the line of demarcation, and there take it on board, without violating the treaty. You are now paid for the fish you brought on board, and with this advice you may go.

From some of the Colonial papers the reported concession to the American Fishermen has elicited warm remarks. The Pictou Chronicle speaking on the subject, says:

This intelligence comes to us on the authority of the London papers, and the business is said to have been arranged with the American minister at the court of St. James. It were idle to point out the utter worthlessness of the privilege here given by the Americans; the thing is so perfectly ridiculous that it might excite merriment if the joke were not too costly a one to laugh at. Our minerals have already gone to pay the gambling debts of a royal debauchee, and now our fisheries must be sacrificed at the shrine of national expediency, and to satisfy the craving of an arrogant and grasping neighbor.

Our mines and fisheries, under proper management, would be two sources of permanent trade and untold wealth; but if thus cut off from under her own control, will place Nova Scotia in a position in which she must sink hopelessly for ever, in the most abject poverty. Will she submit to this? B. Wier, Esq., M. P., for Halifax, at a public meeting held recently in that city, used the following language:—'If the home government had gone so far as to give up our fisheries without consulting us, they should go one step further, and LET US GO WITH THEM!'

This sentiment has we have reason to believe, come to the settled conviction of nine tenths of the people of the lower provinces; and if the home government continue much longer the game of playing at pitch and toss with the rights of their colonial subjects, they may perhaps be startled into reason by its assuming a tangible form and a voice they cannot fail to understand.

The Editor of the Fredericton Head Quarters, on the same subject, writes as follows:

We never desired annexation; there is no disloyalty in our blood and education; we never asked for more freedom or for future guarantees than are to be found in our present constitution. Administer that constitution in its integrity, leave to us the rights and powers it acknowledges to exist in the Colonial people, and we accept the responsibility of working out our own destiny in obedience to it, and with fond and faithful allegiance to the parent state. On our own heads be all the results for good or evil if we are dealt with honestly, but if we are to be not only disarmed but pinioned, if those elemental rights of property, which are essential to the meanest condition of national existence, are to be denied to us, or to be held only on such indulgence and permission as are implied, in this and similar transactions, then, better than this, anything that will give us some one to care for us or leave us to take care for ourselves.

FREDERICTON.—The Executive Council met at this city, on Friday, the 10th inst., and several matters of importance were discussed, and action taken on the most prominent. The Fishery dispute received a good share of attention, and we understand that a course was adopted to place the views of our Government on this subject before the Imperial Parliament.

The scarcity of copper coin was also brought before the Council, and it was decided that a Committee be appointed to obviate the difficulty by importing a sufficient

quantity for business purposes. The Hon. Mr Partelow and the Provincial Treasurer are the Committee for carrying out the object.

It was also ordered that the snags in the River St. John, of which there are several very dangerous ones, be forthwith removed.

CANADA.—Mr Hincks had given notice that he would move the following resolutions on the Clergy Reserves on the 7th instant:

1. Resolved,—That an humble Address be presented to Her most Gracious Majesty, to assure Her Majesty that this House deeply regrets to learn from the Despatch of the Right Honorable Sir John Pakington, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, that Her Majesty's Imperial Ministers are not prepared to introduce a Bill to repeal the Imperial Act 2 and 4 Vic., cap. 78, intitled, 'An Act to provide for the sale of the Clergy Reserves in the Province of Canada, and for the distribution of the proceeds thereof.'

2. Resolved,—That whatever difference of opinion may exist among the people of Canada as to the best mode of disposing of the revenues derived from the Lands known as Clergy Reserves, the great mass of the people will ever maintain the principle recognized by the Right Honorable the Earl Grey, then Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in this Despatch of 27th January, 1851, to the Right Honorable the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, that the question whether the existing arrangements 'is to be maintained or altered is one so exclusive affecting the people of Canada, that its decision ought not to be withdrawn from the Provincial Legislature, to which it properly belongs to regulate all matters concerning the domestic interests of the Province.'

3. Resolved,—That while the people of Canada are devotedly attached to Her Majesty's Person and Government, and most anxious to maintain inviolated the connexion which binds them to the great Empire over which she rules, yet this House is bound by a high sense of duty to inform Her Majesty that the refusal on the part of the Imperial Parliament to comply with the just demand of the Representatives of the Canadian people on a matter exclusively affecting their own interests, will be viewed as a violation of their Constitutional rights, and will lead to deep and widespread dissatisfaction among Her Majesty's Canadian subjects.

4. Resolved,—That this House is well aware that attempts have been made to induce Her Majesty's Imperial Ministers to believe that the present Representatives of the People of Canada entertain opinions on the subject of the repeal of the Clergy Reserves Act, different from those expressed by the late Parliament.

5. Resolved,—That this House confidently hopes that when Her Majesty's Ministers shall be convinced that the opinions of the People of Canada and of their Representatives on this subject are unaltered and unalterable, they will consent to give effect to the promise made by their predecessors; and this House is confirmed in this hope by the suggestion in the Despatch of the Right Honorable Sir John Pakington, that Her Majesty's Ministers are prepared to recommend amendments to the Imperial Clergy Reserves Act with a view to satisfy the wishes of the Canadian people.

6. Resolved,—That this House can scarcely doubt that, the principle of amending the present Act being admitted, Her Majesty's Ministers will yield to strong feeling which prevades the Canadian people, that any new Legislative enactments regarding the Clergy Reserves, should be framed by their own Representatives, instead of by the Imperial Parliament, which being necessarily unacquainted with the public opinion in Canada, cannot be expected to concur in a measure that will give permanent satisfaction to its inhabitants.

7. Resolved,—That this House desires to assure Her Majesty, that in thus given expression to public opinion of the Country, it is actuated by the strongest feelings of loyalty to Her Majesty, and by a sincere desire to prevent those lamentable consequence which must be the result of a collision between the Imperial and Provincial Parliaments, on question on which very strong feelings are known to prevail among the people of this Province.

VISIT OF THE LORD BISHOP.—The Lord Bishop of Fredericton has been pleased to make the following appointments for the undermentioned Churches and Stations in this County:

Sunday, October 10—St. Paul's, Chatham, at eleven. The same day—St. Mary's, at half past six.

Monday, October 11—The Church of St. John the Evangelist, Baies des Vents, at half past two.

Sunday, October 17—St. Andrew's Church, Newcastle, at eleven. The same day—St. Peter's Church, Nelson, at a quarter past three.

Monday, October 18—St. Luke's Day—Church of the Holy Trinity, Blackville, at half past eleven.

Tuesday, October 19—Ludlow, at half past eleven. The same day—Boies Town, at half past three.

The hour specified is that at which Divine Service will begin.