



Deputy Commissary General's Office, Halifax, April 15th, 1824.

CONTRACTS.

SUCH persons as are disposed to furnish His Majesty's Troops at the following Stations with FRESH BEEF, for one year from the 25th June next, are hereby informed, That sealed Tenders will be received at this Office, until MONDAY the 4th day of MAY next, at 12 o'clock, viz.

- WINDSOR, ANNAPOLIS, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, SYDNEY, CAPE BRETON.

TENDERS will also be received at this Office until MONDAY the 10th May ensuing, at 12 o'clock, for about 110 Barrels of fine or scratched FLOUR, to be delivered on the King's Wharf at Halifax, on or before the 1st of June, for which a Warranty will be required, that it keep sweet and good for Six Months from the day of delivery—Also, about 20 Barrels of SALT PORK, to be delivered at the same time and place, and for which Warranty will also be required to keep sweet and good for twelve months from the period of delivery.

No Tender will be noticed, unless accompanied by a letter addressed to the Deputy Com. Gen. and signed by two respectable persons, engaging to become bound with the party tendering, in good and sufficient security, for the performance of such Contract as may be entered into.

Deputy Commissary General's Office, Halifax, 5th April, 1824.

CONTRACTS.

PERSONS desirous of entering into the following Contracts with His Majesty's Government for one year to commence from the 25th June next, are hereby informed that separate sealed Tenders for each Contract will be received at this Office, until Monday the 10th of May, at 12 o'clock, and at the Commissariat Offices of the several Out Posts, until 12 o'clock of the day preceding the departure of the last Mail for Halifax prior to that date.

- WOOD. 1st. For 1100 Cords of Wood for the use of the Troops at Halifax. A proportion of which is to be delivered at the Harbour Posts according to a Scale which will be exhibited at the Commissariat Office. 2d. For ditto at Windsor, not exceeding 130 Cords. 3d. Do. at Annapolis, do 270 do. 4th. Do. at Prince Edward Island, do 300.

- COAL. 1st. For 400 Chaldron of Picou Coal to be delivered between the 25th Aug. and the 24th Sept. For 1450 Chaldrons of Sydney Coal, for the use of the Troops at Halifax. A proportion of which is to be delivered at the Harbour Posts according to a scale which will be exhibited at the Commissariat Office. 2d. For do, at Sydney, not exceeding 120 Chal. drons.

The whole of the Wood and Coal is to be delivered into the King's Fuel Yard at the several Posts throughout the Commands and piled at the expense of Contractors, under the direction of the Ordnance Department.

- STRAW. 1st. For 135 000 pounds of Straw at Halifax. 2d. For do. at Windsor, not exceeding 2000 lbs. 3d. Ditto at Annapolis do. 3000 lbs. 4th. Ditto at P. E. Island, 2500 lbs. 5th. Ditto at Sydney, do. 3250 lbs.

For 2000 Birch Brooms to be delivered at Halifax.

The terms of the foregoing Contracts may be obtained and all particulars known on application at this Office, and at the Commissariat Offices at the several Out Posts.

No tender will be noticed unless it is accompanied by a letter addressed to the Deputy Commissary General, and signed by two respectable persons engaging to become bound with the party tendering, in good and sufficient security for the due performance of such Contract as may be entered into.

The Subscriber,

Has received by the Industry from LONDON A Supply of Barclay & Co's best BROWN STOUT; which may be had in bottle or wood, at his Wine Cellar.—Also, West India and London Particular Madeira; Old Port; pale old Sherry; Dry Lisbon, and other WINES—Cognac Brandy; High Flavor'd old Rum; Gin, Irish Whiskey, &c.

FROM CANADA,

A large assortment of Single and Double STOVES, with various other Castings, on Consignment,—which, with his usual assortment of Ironmongery Cutlery, &c. are for sale, at moderate prices.

Oct. 17, 1823. GEO. N. RUSSELL.

Souchong Tea.

A FEW Quarter Chests may be had for cash, apply at this Office.

NEGRO SLAVERY.

CIRCULAR FROM THE SECRETARY FOR COLONIAL AFFAIRS.

(COPY.) Colonial Office, Downing street, 9th July, 1823.

SIR,—In my Despatch Circular you will have observed, that I have authorised you to intimate to the Colonial Legislature, that if the Revenue of the Colony shall be insufficient to maintain an adequate number of Clergymen and Teachers under Episcopal control, His Majesty's Government will not hesitate to apply to Parliament for such pecuniary grants as may be necessary for supplying the deficiency. Before, however, any application of this nature can be made, it will be necessary that I should receive the most distinct and particular information as to the existing state and deficiency of the establishment for religious instruction and for education in the Colony,—you will, therefore, with all practicable dispatch, and with the utmost possible precision, transmit to me an answer to the following Questions.

- 1st. What is the number of places of religious worship within the Colony of all denominations of Christians? 2dly. What number of Slaves habitually attend Divine Service at those places? 3dly. What is the greatest number of persons who could without material inconvenience attend in the existing Churches or Chapels? 4thly. If sufficient room were provided, and if the Sunday were exclusively appropriated to religious services, what number of Slaves could conveniently be spared from the necessary engagements of domestic life for attendance at public worship? 5thly. What is the probable expense of erecting and keeping in repair a sufficient number of Churches and Chapels for the reception of all who could conveniently attend them? 6thly. What is the number of Schools at present in the Colony, and the number of children habitually attending them; distinguishing Sunday Schools, and Schools of every description? 7thly. What is the number of uneducated children of every description in the Colony, under the age of fourteen years? 8thly. What number of Clergymen, Schoolmasters, or Catechists, would be required for the religious instruction and education of the whole Population, whether free or slave? 9thly. What expense would probably be incurred in providing for that number of Clergymen, Teachers, and Catechists? 10thly. What proportion of the expense attendant on the erection of Churches, and the instruction and education of the people, will the Colony itself be able to sustain? And lastly, What is the proportion of that expense which must be supplied from other sources?

I have the honor to be,—Sir, Your obedient servant, (Signed) BATHURST. To Sir HENRY WARDE, K. C. B. &c. &c. &c. A True Copy, G. A. DELHOSE, Priv. Sec.

JUST RECEIVED,

Per the brig MANCHESTER, Capt. Hutchinson from LEITH, and for sale by the Subscriber—

- A FEW pipes & lhdts. very superior MADEIRA WINE; pipes of Hollands GENEVA & COGNAC BRANDY; BOTTLED LEITH ALE; SOAP, CANDLES & COALS. J. FORMAN, Junr. Also—a few kegs first quality pickled LOCH FINE HERRINGS. Long Wharf. 11th Oct. 1823

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

A very numerous and respectable Meeting of the Halifax Diocesan committee of this Society at the National School, on Wednesday the 1st of Dec

His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of DALHOUSIE in the Chair.

The attention of the Committee was called to the injury which is sustained from the want of some funds which may be applied to the benevolent objects of this Committee within the Diocese of Nova Scotia; as the benefactions of Members of the Society, at their entrance, and their Annual Subscriptions are the exclusive property of the Parent Society.

Whereupon it was unanimously Resolved, That a column be opened in the Subscription Book of this Committee, for the names of such persons (whether Members of the Society or otherwise) as may be pleased to subscribe any sum, not less than half a Guinea, annually, for the benefit of this Committee; with an understanding that all persons, so subscribing, although they may not be Members of the Society, shall thereby become Members of this Committee, and be entitled to purchase books at the reduced prices, and to attend and vote at all its Meetings.

JOHN INGLIS, Secretary

\* Any Contributions or Subscriptions in pursuance of the above Resolution, will be thankfully received by the Secretary, Treasurer or Assistant Secretary.

A new Catalogue of the Books, on sale by the committee, including the numerous additions which have lately been made to its stock, will soon be ready for distribution.

Those few Members of the Society, whose subscriptions are in arrears, are very respectfully requested to send the amount to Mr. James C. Cochran Assistant Secretary. June 15

TRAVELS IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

ACCOUNT OF A JOURNEY ACROSS THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND.—BY W. E. CORMACK, ESQ.

In a Letter addressed to the Right Honourable Earl BATHURST, Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c.

Extracted from the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal.

MY LORD.—In the beginning of September 1822, I left Smith's Sound at Random Island, accompanied only by one Micmac Indian; and accompanied by two of that tribe, reached St. George's Harbour in the beginning of November. I encountered more impediments in accomplishing this undertaking than were contemplated at setting out. These chiefly arose from having to walk round numerous lakes, which in the eastern division of the Island, are generally surrounded with wood; and from the ground being covered with snow, to a considerable depth, after the 15th of October.

My courses were determined merely by a pocket compass; from which circumstance, and from being the first traveller over this country, I only had it in my power to ascertain its general nature and outline (plate VI)†; and consequently, it is not to be understood that the lakes, rivers, and mountains, are so accurately laid down as they might have been in more favourable circumstances.

There is much more of the interior under water than appears to be from the sketch; it may be said, within bounds, at least one third of the whole of it.

The first rocks we met with were granite and porphyry. These were succeeded by alternations of granite and mica-slate, which, in their turn, were replaced by granite. Granite, sienite, porphyry, mica-slate, clay-slate, and quartz-rock, occur in the district occupied by Melville Lake. In the same district there are several kinds of secondary sandstone, belonging, probably, to the coal and red sandstone formations. The primitive rocks extend onwards to Gower's Lake. The shores of this lake bear a strong resemblance to the shores of Fresh-water Bay near St. John's. This lake has also a dry stony bar, or bank, about its middle, running nearly across from its north-west side; the other has a bar extending across, and separating the fresh water from the salt.

From Gower's Lake, by Jenette's Lake, Emma's Lake, Christian's Lake, Stewart's Lake, Richardson's Lake, the country is almost entirely of old rocks, apparently of the primitive class; the only indications of secondary rocks being the agates near Gower's Lake, the basalt at Emma's Lake, and Jenette's Lake, and the indication of coal and iron near Stewart's Lake. The serpentine deposit is succeeded by a great tract of granite, gneiss, and quartz, which extends from Jameson's Lake, by Bathurst's Lake, Wallace's Lake, Wilson's Lake, King George the Fourth's Lake, to St. George's Harbour, in the Bay of St. George, on the west coast of the Island.

About the centre of the island are several ridges of serpentine. Here this rock is seen in all its beautiful and numerous varieties; and this occurs particularly on the shores of Serpentine Lake. The Serpentine Mountain and Jameson's Mountain also abound in this interesting mineral.

The west coast is by far the richest in minerals. There is coal of a good quality in St. George's Bay, about eight miles from the sea coast, up the South Barrasway River. There

\* My enterprising young friend Mr. Cormack having communicated to me some notices of his journey across Newfoundland, I transmitted the same to Lord Bathurst, through John Barrow, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty. His Lordship, in acknowledging Mr. Barrow's communication, says, that the Journey through the interior of Newfoundland, is he believes, with one exception, the only one in which the island had been crossed;—that the state of the Red Indians had attracted his Lordship's attention many years ago, as there was reason to believe that our people had put them to death without sufficient provocation; hence there is no wonder that they fly from all approaches; that it is not improbable that the Micmac Indians may have contributed to this indisposition to accept the advances which have been made them; that Mr. Cormack's attempts to conciliate them could not be otherwise than interesting; and that the publication of the notice of the journey has his Lordship's sanction and approbation.—R. J.

† There is an illustrative map annexed to the pamphlet from which this account is copied.—EDITOR LEDGER.

‡ I have used the customary privilege of giving names to the lakes and mountains I met with in this hitherto unexplored route, and these are in compliment to distinguished individuals and private friends. The rocks I collected were examined by Professor Jamieson.

are several salt springs: one about two miles from the sea-coast, up another Barrasway River, some miles north of that where the coal is found; another, a few miles still farther north, up what is called Rattling Brook; and a third at Port a Port. There is a strong sulphurous spring, close to the sea shore, about a mile north of the Barrasway River, where the salt spring first mentioned is found, (apparently what is called the Second River by the chart.) Gypsum and red ochre abound between these rivers and Flat Bay, at the sea shore; and the former is also found some miles within the country. There is a dark grey coloured marble found at Bay of Islands; but from report, in no great quantity near the coast. The soil of St. George's Bay is good, and not so rocky as in most parts of the island.

There does not appear to be any good soil in the interior. It is almost invariably peat marsh, more or less wet, according to situation, the more elevated parts being rocky. The stunted woods almost invariably indicate its poverty. The short summer does not allow the sun sufficient time to draw out, even from the more elevated sloping districts in their natural state, the wet of the preceding winter. The best soil in the island is near the sea-coasts, particularly the banks next to the mouths of some of the large rivers.

The eastern half of the interior is a low picturesque woody country, traversed northerly and southerly by successive ridges of low hills. The western half is mountainous, often rugged, barren, and nearly destitute of wood; but the mountains here do not lie in ridges, nor in any particular direction, and the lakes and rivers are much larger than to the eastward.

The most extensive lake in Newfoundland is called the Bay of Islands—Lake, said by the Indians to be 60 miles long. The second is called the Lake of the Red Indians.

The largest river is Exploit River. The river of East Bay, in the Bay of Despair, admits of the Micmac Indians taking up their birch-bark canoes from the sea coast to Serpentine Lake. After that, they go on their hunting excursions, from lake to lake, in skin canoes, by means of the rivers, and, occasionally, by portages. From St. George's Bay there is a portage of upwards of twenty miles to George the Fourth's Lake, before the Indians enter up the great lakes of the interior.

Roads, or rather paths, which would admit of horses and cattle passing in summer, could be made across any part of the interior. The chief labour and expense attending their formation, would consist in surveying the routes, to avoid lakes, and, in general, woods; the latter frequently covering very rocky districts. With proper and seasonable care, considerable quantities of wild hay could be procured from the marshes. Were Government to countenance the facilitating a communication overland, between St. John's and the neighbouring bays, the intercourse would become more frequent and less dangerous than it has been, particularly in winter.

In a botanical point of view, the interior does not appear to be particularly interesting, after having examined the country, near the sea coast. The Island altogether, however, affords a wide field for research to the botanists, particularly as to shrubs. The naked parts of the country, in general, including the marshes, exhibit appearances of having been once wooded. Roots and trunks of trees are generally found under the surface. Many are of larger dimensions than any now growing in their vicinity. They have evidently been destroyed by fire; and from the poor soil in this cold region several centuries seem necessary to produce a forest of any magnitude. A thin wiry grass, with lichens and mosses, cover the marshes; and these, with whortle berry bushes, and several diminutive shrubs, predominate on the higher unwooded districts.—Spruces, Larch, and Birches, compose the woods. The Pine is seldom seen, and is commonly so stunted or shrubby, as to be of little value for timber. The Mountain ash is sometimes met with. The only good timber in Newfoundland grows near the sea coasts, and, particularly, on the banks of the large rivers, where the best soil is found.

The western division being nearly destitute of wood, affords pasture to numerous herds of deer (the Caribou). Of the animals there are here many thousands; indeed, the country seems covered with them. They migrate eastward to the woody districts in winter, and return westward very early in spring. Their flesh forms almost the sole subsistence of the Indians.

Beavers have, in former times, abounded in all the woody districts, and in some places