

for the future, and lead to more
extensive operations next year.
You would do me a great favour
by kindly writing such a letter,
And a one as the Government
could print if I laid it before
them. I think I am safe in
saying that Dr Carpenter
& John Jeffreys, Professor
Fraunhofer will do this, as
they have all been written to, and
Herr Verkrüger will see them.
Newfoundland derives ^{or nearly all} its
~~Exports~~ ^{Exports} about \$8,000,000 per annum
from the Fisheries - and these are
the most extensive in the world, and
the more you know about them the
better. Hence my appeal to you to
assist me by a strong opinion and
through me the Gov. of Newf. who
are very much in earnest in opening
the subject, and gave it, cited

Hind

Windsor N. S.
April 15th 1877

Dear Dr Dawson,

As the time is
rapidly approaching for my
departure for Newfoundland
to prepare for the Labrador Dr.
I should be obliged if you will
send any instructions or hints
as a guide which may occur
to you, or if you are desirous
that any attention should be
given to any particular
subject - ^{of Frankfurt am Main} Herr Verkrüger
an accomplished Conchologist
and dredger is engaged to
go with me - and he according
to the last letter I had from
him is getting the best apparatus
which his long experience

in Spitzbergen and other Northern
Sea suggest them.

We will see several of the
best authorities in Germany
and England, and is well
acquainted with most of
them, and proposes to
enlist their kind efforts
in determining doubtful species
&c.

Herr Verkrüger has spent
a summer ^{or part of one} on the French
Banks dredging, and so
is to a certain extent familiar
with American Seas.

As in all similar cases in
New Brunswick not advanced
in Education, a number of
Petitions have been sent in
to the Government and Legislature
of Newfoundland praying that

No investigation of the Newfoundland
Fisheries be permitted to take
place - and similar barbarian
cravings. They profess to know
all about the matter. They
want however for to assist
them in getting Bait &c.

Most of the older fishermen
can neither read or write, and
yet one petition, signed by 600
fishermen, was sent in from
Bay Roberts, which place shows
no improvement or addition in
the number of children attending
school in sixteen years - although
the population is much increased.

If you could write me a
letter expressing your opinion of
the advantages of studying and
investigating the whole question
of the Fisheries, it would greatly
strengthen the hands of the Government

my appointment, a prominent
position in the Governor
Speech - Many Honourable
Members take a proper view
of the subject, as you will see
from the enclosed extract

DAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1877.

ing others possessing the means to carry it out, no exertions could be more laudably used than those which would result in bringing to the front this progressive measure. It will be done some day, whether it be in ten, twenty or thirty years; but if long deferred it will be of little advantage to those now living. X There was one portion of the speech intimating a policy which deserves high commendation; that indicative of a desire to enquire into and learn something more than the limited knowledge we at present possess regarding our fisheries. Newfoundland has been essentially a fishing country for the past two or three centuries, yet the ignorance that up to this day exists even amongst those most directly interested in them is deplorable. That ignorance was not peculiar to us in Newfoundland. A year or two ago he (Mr. H.) being in England made an effort to obtain some information regarding the habits of the cod, and to that end applied to one of the highest authorities on such matters in Great Britain, Mr. Frank Buckland, to whom he had been introduced. He asked that gentleman many questions about the cod-fish, their habits, movements, spawning time, food, how old they were before breeding, and other matters relative to that fish in particular; but he (Mr. H.) was sorry to say that Mr. Buckland and other eminent authorities whom he had consulted showed as much unacquaintance with the matter as ourselves. Hence he considered any step taken to shed light upon a matter so vital to the Colony deserves approbation. He hoped that our other fisheries will also be investigated, the herring fishery, for instance, which perhaps from want of knowledge of the movements of that fish is at present so uncertain. X His hon. friend Mr. Rendell had recently

Harvey

But the fishermen think that
a proper view of the true condition of the

Fisheries, will open the eyes
of the American, to the wealth of
their waters, and spoil their pretensions
and so on. The Merchants, that is
the Suppliers - don't want their
immense profits exposed - but with
them I have nothing to do - And some
of the County Merchants induce
the fishermen to send in petitions
against excising - The Shore fisheries
is fast declining - The Herrings are
wandering away, and generally
there is distress in the West of
Scotland plenty. Therefore if you
can say any thing to the Admiralty
will justify the government in their
action I think that this year
the grant will be largely
increased - But I am informed
steps must be taken in time, so
that the people may talk about in
success, we wonder they are not
Principled Doctor
Very truly yours
Henry Hunt