

are on which the seizure was grounded, and which the defendant is required to disprove. This most reasonable request has been refused by the prosecuting officers.

Under these circumstances I am instructed by my Government to request of Her Majesty's Government that the solicitors for the owners of the "David J. Adams," in the suit pending in Halifax, may be furnished, for the purposes of the trial thereof, with copies of the Reports above mentioned. And I beg to remind your Lordship that there is no time to be lost in giving the proper direction, if it is to be in season for the trial, which, as I am informed, is being pressed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. J. PHELPS.

No. 2.

Mr. Phelps to the Earl of Iddesleigh.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

Legation of the United States, London, December 3, 1886.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 30th November, on the subject of the Canadian fisheries, and to say that I shall at an early day submit to your Lordship some considerations in reply.

Meanwhile, I have the honour to transmit, in pursuance of the desire expressed by your Lordship in conversation on the 30th November, a copy of an outline for a proposed *ad interim* arrangement between the two Governments on this subject, which has been prepared by the Secretary of State of the United States.

And I likewise transmit, in connection with it, a copy of the instruction from the Secretary of State which accompanied it, and which I am authorized to submit to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. J. PHELPS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Proposal for the Settlement of all Questions in Dispute in relation to the Fisheries on the North-eastern Coasts of British North America.

WHEREAS, in the 1st Article of the Convention between the United States and Great Britain, concluded and signed in London on the 20th of October, 1818, it was agreed between the High Contracting Parties "that the inhabitants of the said United States shall have for ever, in common with the subjects of His Britannic Majesty, the liberty to take fish of every kind on that part of the southern coast of Newfoundland which extends from Cape Ray to the Rameau Islands, on the western and northern coast of Newfoundland, from the said Cape Ray to the Quirpon Islands, on the shores of the Magdalen Islands, and also on the coasts, bays, harbours, and creeks, from Mount Joly on the southern coast of Labrador, to and through the Straits of Belleisle, and thence northwardly indefinitely along the coast, without prejudice, however, to any of the exclusive rights of the Hudson's Bay Company; and that the American fishermen shall also have liberty for ever to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbours, and creeks of the southern part of the coast of Newfoundland, here above described, and of the coast of Labrador; but so soon as the same, or any portion thereof, shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such portion so settled without previous agreement for such purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors, or possessors of the ground;" and was declared that "the United States hereby renounce for ever any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof to take, dry, or cure fish on or within 3 marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbours of His Britannic Majesty's dominions in America not included within the above-mentioned limits; provided, however, that the American fishermen shall be admitted to enter such bays or harbours for the purpose of shelter, and of repairing damages therein, of purchasing wood, and obtaining water, and for no other purpose whatever. But they shall be under such restrictions as may be necessary to prevent their taking, drying, or curing fish therein, or in any other manner whatever