

PRINCE
EDWARD
ISLAND.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR ROBINSON to GENERAL E. P. SCAMMON.

SIR,

Government House, 25th November, 1870.

I have the honour to inform you, that the United States schooner *Clara F. Friend*, lately seized by H.M.S. *Plover*, for a breach of the Fishery laws, and up to yesterday in the custody of the Marshal of the Vice-Admiralty Court, was, last night, boarded by the owner and an armed crew of sixteen persons, who, having overpowered the men in charge of the schooner, made sail on the vessel and took her out of port.

2. I have no means at my disposal of recapturing the vessel, but I have telegraphed particulars of the transaction to the Admiral at Halifax and to the Commander of the *Plover* at Pictou, in the hope that they may be able to intercept the schooner before she gets through the Gut of Canso.

3. I feel sure that you will lose no time in telegraphing such information to your Government as will cause the *Clara F. Friend* to be seized and detained at the first port in the United States at which she may call, in the event of her eluding our cruisers in the Gut of Canso.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Lieutenant-Governor.

General E. P. Scammon,
United States Consul, Charlottetown.

GENERAL E. P. SCAMMON to his Honour the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR of Prince Edward Island.

United States Consulate at Prince Edward Island,

SIR,

Charlottetown, 25th November, 1870.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's communication of this morning in reference to the forcible seizure of an American vessel, in custody of officials of Her Majesty's Government in this colony.

I enclose a copy of my telegram to the Secretary of State at Washington.

How such an act, equivalent to piracy by our own statutes, could have been perpetrated by sane men I cannot understand.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

E. P. SCAMMON, Consul.

The Lieutenant-Governor of
Prince Edward Island.

(Telegram.)

United States Consulate at Prince Edward Island,

Charlottetown, 25th November, 1870.

American fishing schooner *Clara F. Friend*, of Gloucester, M., legitimately seized by H.M.S. *Plover*, for violation of Fishery Laws, and lying in this port, was boarded by her owner and crew of sixteen armed men last night—her guard put on shore on an island outside the harbour, and the vessel taken off.

E. P. SCAMMON, Consul.

Hon. Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C. U. S. A.

No. 3.

No. 3.

Lieutenant-Governor Robinson to the Earl of Kimberley.

(No. 17.)

Halifax, 28th November, 1870.

MY LORD,

(Received 14th December, 1870.)

* Page 54.

Referring to my Despatch, No 16,* of the 25th instant, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that the prize schooner *Clara F. Friend* has been recaptured by H.M.S. *Plover*, and taken back to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

2. I received the following telegram from the captain of the *Plover* on Saturday morning at Pictou:

"Thanks for telegram. Prize recaptured. Written to you at Halifax."