

vate stock, to those of the schooners who were on board my boat. I never asked them to do any duty on board my boat; nor did I at any time, make use of harsh or menacing language. The duty done by the persons taken out of one or either of the said schooners, was a perfect voluntary act of their own. The arms spoken of, were taken from the Pilgrim, through expressions made use of by Winslow, for safety. Powder, a quarter of a pound; shot, about one pound; the arms were delivered to the gunner. The papers of each schooner were delivered to the Custom House at St. John's.

I have the honor to be. &c. &c. &c.

S. R. PROTHEROE, *Mate.*

R. HOARE, *Commander.*

HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP DOTTEREL,

Hulifax, November 25, 1824.

Rear Admiral LAKE, &c. &c.

SIR: According to your direction, I have made the strictest investigation, and enclose the reports of Mr. Jones, master, and Mr. Protheroe, mate, also, the testimony of the several men belonging to their boats, relative to the several American fishing vessels they had seized, which, I trust, will be sufficient proof of the propriety of detaining those vessels; and, as the American fishermen do not keep any journal or log, there cannot be possibly any proof, but the crews of the boats detaining them and the Americans, it is not to be supposed that the latter will acknowledge to have violated the treaty existing between the two Governments relative to the fisheries. I think you will perceive a consistency throughout the several reports of Messrs. Jones and Protheroe, that will bear the stamp of truth—why should they detain these vessels if they had not violated the laws? It could not be for their value, they had little or nothing in, and they knew if they were condemned and sold, they would sell for a mere trifle, the best of them not more than forty dollars; there were many other American fishing vessels of much more value which they might have seized, if it was merely to annoy them, or for the sake of what they might sell for; but it is known every where in the bay of Fundy, that the American fishermen have invariably made use of the several harbors in the Menan, as if those islands formed a part of the United States, they come in and haul their nets, and there are many instances of their having cut away the nets of the Islanders, and I was informed by the fishermen at the Menan, previous to leaving the Bay of Fundy, that they had taken treble the quantity of fish this year to that of any preceding year since the war, and they ascribed it entirely to the American fishermen having been kept without the distance prescribed by treaty, (three marine miles) from the shore. The former cruizers in the Bay of Fundy, (vide Capt. Arabin's letter dated H. M. sloop Argus, off Bermuda, December 17, 1822,) have not paid much attention to the fisheries off Menan, and consequently, the American fishermen have gone into the harbors whenever they