

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Governor Sir J. Glover to Sir M. Hicks Beach.

Sir, *Government House, Newfoundland, September 11, 1879.*
 WITH reference to paragraph 6 of my despatch of the 28th August, I have now the honour to transmit, for your information, the inclosed copy of the depositions taken by Mr. Prowse, Q.C., Judge of the District Court, St. John's, when investigating the circumstances attending the alleged interruption of American fishermen at Smith's Sound, Trinity Bay.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER.

Inclosure 2 in No 11.

Statement of Martin Ryan.

MARTIN RYAN, of Torbay, fisherman, sworn, who, upon his oath, saith:—On Tuesday, 12th August, 1879, I left Torbay in the American banking schooner "Howard Holbrook," Daniel McFaden master; we went first to Portugal Cove, Conception Bay, looking for squids for bait.

On Wednesday following we anchored in Smith's Sound; the next day, Thursday, we went to Aspey Cove, and I got the seine in the dory and was going to seine; I spoke to a very stout man named John Cooper, who was on the beach with his two servant men preparing to get their breakfast; I said I was a Newfoundlander belonging to near St. John's, and I said that I could seine bait; he said I could not, I said that if I saw a chance I would; he, Cooper, said "You had better try;" the only talk was between Cooper and me; we rowed off then, and that was all that passed between us.

The master of the banker, Daniel McFaden, did not say a word to Cooper, and Cooper did not say a word to him. We then went down to Lower Lance, shot our seine, and got some herring in it. We remained in Smith's Sound from that time up to Monday morning getting squids, jigging them, and buying them from the Newfoundland fishermen. There was another American banker there getting squids, buying them, and jigging them; a Nova Scotia banker, and two Fortune Bay schooners, also getting squids. None of us got full fares of squids, we only got about 5,000 squids there, and got more squids in Torbay.

On Sunday evening we spent the evening, the two American captains and myself, in the house of a man named Leate; we did not mention a word about the obstruction to him. There was not the least obstruction to us by any one except what I have referred to about John Cooper.

The people of Smith's Sound were only too glad to sell bait to us, and were most civil and obliging to the Americans. In several places we offered money for hospitality afforded to us, and it would not be received. We only paid 25 cents for most of our squids, some 30 cents.

It is not the practice in this Colony to seine for squids, and in my opinion it would not succeed; generally the squids do not approach sufficiently close to the shore to make seining successful; jigging seems to have no effect in driving away squids, but rather collects them together; and the best places for squids in my experience in Torbay is where we have constantly jigged for years. For some cause, which I cannot explain, the squids always seem to frequent particular places in the harbours.

I consider that if a seine were shot any way near where the fishermen were jigging squids, it would certainly have the effect of driving the squids away, at any rate for some time, and probably would spoil the place as a jigging-ground. After my twenty-five years' experience, I consider jigging the best method of getting squids for bait; I would not approve of seining for squids, it would be ruinous to the fishery.

I consider the affair with Cooper in Smith's Sound has been made too much of; I did not attach the least importance to it. No threats whatever were used, except as I have mentioned, and I did not mind what he (Cooper) said; he may have asked me to breakfast; I don't remember; we were not talking together, Cooper and I, for more than five minutes.

Sworn before me at St. John's, this 27th day of August, A. D. 1879.

(Signed) D. W. PROWSE, *Justice of the Peace, Newfoundland.*
 (Signed) MARTIN RYAN.