

SELECTED CASES
OF
MAL-TREATMENT OF AMERICAN FISHING VESSELS.

The following are cases and propositions selected as illustrating the various grounds of complaint made by the United States, arising from the conduct of Canadian officials with reference to fishing vessels of the United States, especially in the year A. D. 1886:

THE ELLA M. DOUGHTY.

St. Ann's bay, protected on the south by Cape Dolphin or Dauphin, is situated on the extreme eastern coast of Cape Breton in latitude about $46^{\circ} 30'$ N. and longitude $60^{\circ} 30'$ W. It is connected by a narrow opening with the inner bay known as St. Ann's harbor, which we have here called the inner harbor, because there is also anchorage at the head of the bay.

The axis of the bay and harbor lies northerly or northeast. A very small settlement, known as St. Ann's, exists on the westerly shore of the strait connecting the bay and harbor, and a somewhat larger, though scattered settlement known as English-town, containing in all a population of about four hundred people, is situated on the eastern side of the same strait, extending along the shore of the bay and inner harbor.

The whole eastern coast of Cape Breton, including St. Ann's bay, is crowded with ice fields coming down from the Gulf of St. Lawrence until late in the spring.

What remains of the once famous fortress and city of Louisburg lies on the southern coast of Cape Breton, somewhat to the eastward of south of the bay of St. Ann's, in latitude of about $45^{\circ} 85'$ N., and very close to the sixtieth parallel. Between Louisburg and St. Ann's bay, on the eastern coast of Cape Breton, some thirty miles overland from Louisburg but approachable by water only after difficult passage around Scatari island, Cape Morien and Cape Percy, lie Sydney and its adjacent port of North Sydney. To the southward of Louisburg on each side of the same parallel, but in latitude of about 44° N., lies Sable island; and to the westward of Sable island the great bank known as Sable Island Bank, commonly called by the fishermen the Western Banks, extending over more than three parallels and almost connecting with other banks, more or less known, until the Georges shoals or banks are reached somewhere near parallel 67° , the principal intermediate banks being La Have, the Roseway and Brown's Bank. The names of each of these are used somewhat carelessly and indiscriminately by fishermen, alike in describing the place for which vessels are fitted away and the place where fishing actually occurs, by reason of the proximity