

7. Under existing Treaties, what rights of fishing are ceded to the citizens of the United States of America, and what reserved for the exclusive enjoyment of British subjects?

No. 112.

Mr. Backhouse to the Law Officers of the Crown.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, June 8, 1841.

WITH reference to my letters to Her Majesty's Advocate-General, of the 26th of May, 1840, and of the 19th of April, 1841, relative to the encroachments of American fishermen on the fishing grounds of Nova Scotia and the adjoining Colonies, and to certain proposed regulations for the protection of those fisheries, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter from the Colonial Office,* together with a copy of a despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, inclosing a copy of a Report of the House of Assembly on the subject of the fisheries of that Province, and also inclosing a case for opinion, as to what rights have been ceded to the citizens of the United States of America, and as to what rights have been exclusively reserved to Her Majesty's subjects; and I am to request that you will take these papers into your consideration, and report to Lord Palmerston your opinion upon the several questions stated in the case above-mentioned.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. BACKHOUSE.

No. 113.

Mr. Backhouse to the Queen's Advocate.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 5, 1841.

WITH reference to my two letters of the 26th of May, 1840, and 19th of April, 1841, and also with reference to my letter to Her Majesty's Law Officers of the 8th of June, 1841, respecting the continued encroachments of American fishermen on the coast of Nova Scotia, and respecting certain proposed regulations for the protection of the fisheries on that coast, I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to transmit to you a correspondence, as marked in the margin,† which has passed between this Office and Mr. Stevenson, the American Minister at this Court, and the Colonial Department, on the subject of a Remonstrance addressed by Mr. Stevenson against the proceedings of the Authorities of Nova Scotia towards American fishing vessels, encroaching on the fisheries on that coast; and I am to request that you will take these papers into your consideration, and favour Lord Palmerston with your opinion thereupon.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. BACKHOUSE.

No. 114:

The Law Officers of the Crown to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received September 1.)

My Lord,

Doctors' Commons, August 30, 1841.

WE are honoured with your Lordship's commands signified in Mr. Backhouse's letter of the 26th of May, 1840, stating that he was directed to transmit to us the accompanying letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing the copy of a despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, inclosing an address to Her Majesty from the House of Assembly of that Province, complaining of the continued encroachments of American fishermen on the fishing ground of Nova Scotia and the adjoining colonies, and praying that Her Majesty would establish, by an Order in Council, general regulations for the protection of the fisheries according to the code annexed to the address.

Mr. Backhouse is pleased to request that we would take these papers into con-

* No. 111.

† Mr. Stevenson, March 27; to Mr. Stevenson, April 2 and April 28; to Colonial Office, April 2; Colonial Office, April 12 and June 18, 1841.