

ject should be further referred to the authorities in Canada, and in such case my Lords would be prepared to cause the Report to be forwarded to the Lords of the Admiralty, in order that the requisite steps may be taken for the establishment of the Table of Fees by the authority of Her Majesty in Council, as provided for by the Act of 2 and 3 W. 4. cap. 51.

Adverting also to the propositions which have been submitted to the Secretary of State for modification of the Fees levied in other Vice Admiralty Courts in the North American Provinces, I am to request you will further move Lord Grey to cause my Lords to be informed whether his Lordship is prepared to make any reference on the subject to the Governments of those Colonies, which would seem a requisite preliminary to the establishment in them of a similar Tariff, inasmuch as the adoption of such Tariff would involve the necessity for provision, as in the case of Canada, for the payment from Colonial Funds of salaries to the Judges and other officers of the respective Courts.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.  
B. Hawes, Esquire, &c.

[COPY.]

## VICE ADMIRALTY COURT OF QUEBEC.

In obedience to the reference made to us respecting the establishment of a Table of the Fees to be taken by the officers and Practitioners of this Vice Admiralty Court, we have taken into our consideration the Table of Fees framed and established under the Act of the 2nd of W. the 4th cap. 51, also the order of Her Majesty in Council dated the 20th of November, 1835, which annulled and revoked such Table of Fees, so far as it had been made applicable to this Vice Admiralty Court. We have, also, had reference to a variety of documents connected with this subject, and to a form of Table of Fees submitted by us in August, 1843, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies,

and we have also perused and fully considered the letters from the Colonial Office to the Treasury, respectively, dated the 26th of August, 1846, and the 17th of June, 1847, together with the several documents transmitted with the said letters; and we have, moreover, specially directed our attention to the Report of a Committee appointed by His Excellency Lord Metcalfe, late Governor General of Lower Canada, for the purpose of revising the aforesaid proposed form of Table of Fees, and we have, also, taken into our consideration the whole of the evidence given before the said Committee, together with the Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive in Council of Lower Canada, and we are of opinion that as it has been customary for the Judge of this Vice Admiralty Court to receive a salary for the performance of his official duties, and as we are further instructed that such Judge has hitherto invariably united in his person, a higher and more lucrative judicial appointment, together with that of Judge of this Vice Admiralty Court, we concur in the opinion expressed by the Committee of the Honorable the Executive in Council, that the Judge of this Vice Admiralty Court should be paid a salary of two Hundred Pounds per annum, out of the Provincial Funds of the Colony, and not be permitted to receive any Fees from any of the suitors in the Court.

We are further of opinion, that the Registrar and Marshal should be paid partly by salary and partly by a reduced or moderate scale of Fees; and we think that the salary of the Registrar should be One Hundred Pounds per annum, and that of the Marshal should be Fifty Pounds per annum, in addition to the Fees to which they will respectively be entitled for the duties they may have to perform.

We advert to that part of the Report of the Committee which alludes to the Merchants' Seamen's Act, the 7 and 8 Vic. cap. 112, wherein they express their regret that the jurisdiction of this and other Courts of Admiralty, in respect to Seamen's Wages in cases under £20, had been taken from those Courts and transferred to Magistrates, and the Commissioners suggest the repeal of this part of the Seamen's Act. We consider, however, that it would not be within the scope of our reference