

PRINCE
EDWARD
ISLAND.

No. 2.

No. 2.

Lieutenant-Governor Robinson to the Earl of Kimberley.

(No. 16.)

MY LORD,

Government House, 25th November, 1870.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the United States schooner, *Clara F. Friend*, lately seized by H.M. ship *Plover* for a breach of the Fishery Laws, and up to yesterday in the custody of the Marshal of the Vice-Admiralty Court, undergoing trial, was last night boarded by the owner, Mr. Charles Friend, and an armed crew of sixteen persons, who, having overpowered the men in charge, made sail on the vessel, and took her out of port; at daylight this morning she was well clear of the harbour.

2. Having no means at my disposal of recapturing or even sending in pursuit of the schooner, I instantly telegraphed to the Admiral at Halifax, and to the captain of H.M. ship *Plover*, who left this yesterday morning, to two of the places at which I think he is likely to call in the course of the day; but I fear there is little chance of their being able to intercept the schooner before she gets into the open sea outside the Gut of Canso.

3. I enclose copies of the above telegrams. I also submit a copy of a letter which I simultaneously addressed to the United States Consul at this port, as well as the deposition of one of the men overpowered by the boarding crew.

4. The *Clara F. Friend* was seized by H.M. ship *Plover*, while fishing within the three-mile limit, and the evidence was so strong against her that she would unquestionably have been condemned. Evidently her owner was of this opinion also.

5. I will at once inform Her Majesty's Minister at Washington of the particulars of this daring transaction, and suggest to him the propriety of laying the matter before the American Government, with a view to a return of the vessel if carried to an American port.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Lieutenant-Governor.

P.S. Since writing the above, I have received from the United States Consul the communication of which I enclose a copy. Your Lordship will observe with pleasure that General Scammon condemns the transaction, and has lost no time in telegraphing the particulars of it to his Government.

W. R.

The Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley.

&c.

&c.

&c.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR to ADMIRAL FANSHAWE.

(Telegram.)

Charlottetown, 25th November, 1870.

Plover left yesterday, and last night prize schooner *Clara F. Friend* was stolen from her moorings. She will probably make for Gut of Canso. We have nothing here to send after her, and she will probably escape unless you can intercept her from Halifax. I have telegraphed *Plover* to Canso and Pictou. Wind westerly and light.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Lieutenant-Governor.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR to CAPTAIN POLAND, H.M. Ship *Plover*, PICTOU.

(Telegram.)

Charlottetown, 25th November, 1870.

The *Clara F. Friend* was stolen from this harbour this morning about daylight. No means at disposal of Government here to recapture her. Wind westerly and light.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Prince Edward Island, }
Queen's County, To wit. } Court of Vice-Admiralty.

Michael Furnis, of Charlottetown, in Prince Edward Island, carpenter, maketh oath and saith:

That he was on Thursday, the 24th day of November instant, employed by Alfred Hinde Yates, Esquire, Marshal of the Court of Vice-Admiralty for Prince Edward