

Letter from the Admiralty.

SIR,

Admiralty, 23rd December, 1870.

I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the enclosed copies of a Despatch, No. 56, of the 22nd November, and its enclosures, from the Vice-Admiral in command of the North American Station, containing a General Report on Newfoundland Fisheries for the year 1870.

I am, &c.,

VERNON LUSHINGTON.

The Under Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES GENERAL REPORT FOR 1870.

(No. 56.)

SIR,

Royal Alfred, Halifax, 22nd November, 1870.

The fishing season on the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador having drawn to a close, I beg to forward herewith the report of Commander Russell G. S. Pasley, of the *Niobe*, the officer who has been employed on this service during the past summer.

2. Though there have been hardly any complaints this year, yet the divergence of views of the colonists, who believe that the French have no right to the rivers at all, and the French, who believe that their rights to displace Englishmen extend up the rivers, appears to render compromise difficult.

3. The officer who may be employed on this service next year shall have orders to gain all possible information on the subject.

4. The difference referred to in the second paragraph of page 52 of the Report relates to the Isle of Gevais and Bell Island, on the N.E. coast, situated ten miles from the actual coast; but I am informed by Commander Pasley that the French ground their claims upon the fact that these islands lie within a straight line connecting Cape St. John and Cape Bould.

5. I also enclose Commander Pasley's reply to their Lordships' letter, No. 28 M, of 16th December, 1869.

6. A copy of this letter, and of Commander Pasley's Report (Enclosure No. 1), will be forwarded to the Governor of New Zealand.

have, &c.,

(Signed)

E. FANSHAWE,

Vice-Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Enclosure No. 1.

FORWARDING REPORT ON THE NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FISHERIES.

SIR,

H.M.S. *Niobe*, at Halifax, 8th November, 1870.

I beg to forward herewith, for your information, a Report in duplicate on the Newfoundland and Labrador Fisheries for this year.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

RUSSELL S. PASLEY,

Commander.

To Vice-Admiral E. G. Fanshawe,
Commander-in Chief.

Enclosure No. 2.

LIMIT OF RIVER FISHING BY THE FRENCH IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

SIR,

H.M.S. *Niobe*, Halifax, 18th November, 1870.

In compliance with Vice-Admiral Wellesley's orders, dated 6th May, 1870, relative to obtaining a definition of the limits of the French Fisheries in the rivers of Newfoundland:

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