

tion, within three marine miles of the coast. In all other respects you will be guided by the instructions herewith.

You will, for the present, proceed with the Government steamer "Lansdowne" to cruise in the Bay of Fundy, or such adjacent Canadian waters as you may deem expedient, reporting from time to time by telegraph or otherwise as may be necessary.

All these instructions you are to consider of a strictly confidential character.

The Government relies upon your judgment to perform with a spirit of forbearance and moderation the delicate and important duties with which you are entrusted.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE E. FOSTER,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

Captain P. A. Scott, R.N.,
St. John, N.B.

Inclosure 4 in No. 201.

Special Instructions to Fishery Officers in Command Fisheries Protection Vessels.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, OTTAWA,

April 16th, 1887.

SIR,

In reference to the letter of this Department, dated March 16th, 1886, I have to intimate to you that during the present season, and until otherwise ordered, you will be guided in the performance of the duties entrusted to you by the instructions contained in that letter.

I have every reason for believing that these have been executed with efficiency and firmness, as well as with discretion and a due regard to the rights secured by Treaty to foreign fishing vessels resorting to Canadian waters.

I desire, however, to impress upon you that in carrying out those instructions and protecting Canadian inshore fisheries, you should be most careful not to strain the interpretation of the law in the direction of interference with the rights and privileges remaining to United States fishermen in Canadian waters under the Convention of 1818.

To this end the largest liberty compatible with the full protection of Canadian interests is to be granted United States fishing vessels in obtaining in our waters shelter, repairs, wood, and water.

Care should be taken that while availing themselves of these privileges, such vessels do not engage in any illegal practices and all proper supervision necessary to accomplish this object is to be exercised, but it is not deemed necessary that in order to effect this an armed guard should be placed on board or that any reasonable communication with the shore should be prohibited after the vessel has duly entered unless sufficient reasons appear for the exercise of such precautions.

In places where United States fishing vessels are accustomed to come into Canadian waters for shelter only, the captain of the cruiser which may be there is authorised to take entry from and grant clearance to the masters of such fishing vessels without requiring them to go on shore for that purpose. Blank forms of entry and clearance are furnished to the captains of cruisers; these, after being filled in, are to be forwarded by the captain of the cruiser to the Customs Officer of the port within whose jurisdiction they have been used. In cases of distress, disaster, need of provisions for homeward voyage, of sickness or death, on board a foreign fishing vessel, all needful facilities are to be granted for relief, and both you and your officers will be carrying out the wishes of the Department in courteously and freely giving assistance in such cases.

The above special instructions, while designed with regard to the fullest recognition of all lawful rights and reasonable liberties to which United States fishermen are entitled in Canadian waters, are not to be construed as authorizing a lax enforcement of the provisions of the laws for the protection of the Canadian Fisheries. Fishing, preparing to fish, procuring bait, trading or transshipping of cargoes, by United States fishing vessels within the three mile limit, are manifest violations of the Convention of 1818, and of Imperial and Canadian Statutes, and in these cases your instructions, which are explicit, are to be faithfully followed.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE E. FOSTER,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries