

7. I trust from what I have already stated, that Her Majesty's Government will perceive the peculiar position in which this colony is placed in regard to the fisheries, so very different from the adjoining provinces. I apprehend that the Lieutenant-Governor, irrespective of any other interests, is entitled to carry that law into effect, applicable to this island, which has received the sanction of the Sovereign, and that the Legislature may modify, relax, or abrogate such law on conditions, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government. The importance of the subject will, I trust, be my excuse for troubling your Lordship at such length, while I have the honour to be,

I have, &c.  
(Signed) A. BANNERMAN, Lieut.-Governor.

No. 25.

The SECRETARY to the ADMIRALTY to Mr. HAWES.

SIR,

Admiralty, October 21, 1851.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Earl Grey, copies of a letter from Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, dated the 17th September, No. 119, and of its inclosures, on the subject of the fisheries on the coasts of Newfoundland and in the Bay of Fundy.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) J. PARKER.

Enclosure 1 in No. 25.

Vice-Admiral Sir GEORGE SEYMOUR to the SECRETARY to the ADMIRALTY.

SIR,

"Cumberland," at Halifax, September 17, 1851.

I BEG to transmit, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a report from Captain George Ramsay, of Her Majesty's ship "Alarm," dated 10th instant, on the fisheries he has visited on the coasts of Newfoundland, during the present season; also one from Lieutenant A. F. Kynaston, late Acting Commander of the "Persian," of the 4th, on the state of the fisheries in the Bay of Fundy.

2. Captain Ramsay was employed for a fortnight in July, in taking evidence in conjunction with a Commissioner from St. John's, on complaints against Mr. Tobin, stipendiary magistrate at St. George's Bay, on the western side. His opinion was, that the magistrates have exceeded their powers, in their treatment of the inhabitants, in very many cases, and contributed to the dissatisfaction which prevailed. The Administrator of Newfoundland has expressed a strong sense of the valuable assistance which was afforded by Captain Ramsay on the occasion.

3. Sir Edmund Head, the Governor of New Brunswick, has also signified his approbation of the zeal and activity with which Acting Commander Kynaston carried out the service on which he was employed in the Bay of Fundy. I have added my approval, and beg to recommend Lieutenant Kynaston's report to their Lordships' attention, as indicative of his having gained a good knowledge of the best means of protecting the fisheries in that quarter.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. F. SEYMOUR.

Enclosure 2 in No. 25.

Captain RAMSAY to Vice-Admiral Sir GEORGE SEYMOUR.

SIR,

"Alarm," Halifax, September 10, 1851.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that Her Majesty's ship "Alarm" anchored in St. Pierre Roads on the afternoon of 6th June, and found in the outer and inner roads 2 French war-steamers, "Phoca," of six, and "Stya," of four guns; 1 colonial schooner, "Gentile;" 16 brigs; 1 barque; 45 schooners; 27 luggers; all fishing-vessels. Some had lately returned from the banks and were discharging their cargoes of fish, and others were preparing to go there. The next morning I waited on the Governor, Lieutenant-Colonel Jervait (Artillery), and communicated to him your orders to me respecting encroachments on the south coast of Newfoundland by the French; he expressed his readiness to assist all in his power to comply with the spirit of the Treaties, and issued notices to that effect. On the 8th June he did me the honour to visit the "Alarm," and expressed his anxiety that no infringements, as far as laid in his power, should occur. Lieutenant-Colonel Jervait informed me that the fishing had commenced very badly; fish