

Newfoundland's proposed Convention with United States of America, and the persistence of Canadian fishermen in supplying the French with bait to the injury of this Colony, compels Newfoundland in self protection, to continue the restrictions of export of herrings.

GOVERNOR.

No. 172.

*REPORT of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the 7th March, 1892.*

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a report dated 4th March, 1892, from the Minister of Marine and Fisheries having reference to statements made that American fishermen were permitted by Newfoundland to fish within the three mile territorial limit from which they are excluded under the Convention of 1818.

The Committee on the recommendation of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries advise that Your Excellency be moved to forward a copy hereof to the Right Honourable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

All of which is respectfully submitted for Your Excellency's approval.

JOHN J. MCGEE,  
Clerk of the Privy Council.

[Enclosure 1 in No. 172.]

OTTAWA, 4th March, 1892.

*To His Excellency the Governor General in Council.*

The undersigned has the honour to report, for the information of Your Excellency, that having observed in the issue of the *Cape Ann Advertiser* newspaper, of Gloucester, Mass., of 26th November, 1891, a statement to the effect that American fishermen were permitted by Newfoundland to fish within the three mile territorial limit, from which they are excluded under the convention of 1818, he caused enquiry to be made, so as to ascertain whether the statement was true.

The enquiry shows, that while at that time it was not known that any official permission was formally granted to United States fishermen to enjoy the inshore fisheries of the Island, it was probable that in effect that was accomplished by non-intervention on the part of the authorities of Newfoundland with the operations of United States fishermen.

Subsequently, however, the undersigned received a clipping from the *St. John's Evening Herald* of 29th December last, hereto appended, detailing the methods which were resorted to in this direction.

These consist in an agreement between parties serving as fishermen on board of United States fishing vessels and the master of the vessel, by which they engage to serve until a fare of herring is obtained, or until the schooner clears or sails, and to aid and assist the crew of said schooner with their labour, boats, nets and other fishing gear, to secure and prepare such fare of herring.

They further engage to serve and fish under the direction and command of the master, either on board the schooner, or in boats, or on shore, wherever the master may direct.

The master agrees to pay a certain sum for every tub of herring put aboard his schooner, the sum to be divided among the fishermen in proportion to the number of fish caught by each.

A release is given to the master of the vessel from all claims or demands for wages by the men as "recent fishermen" on his vessel.

Then follows the discharge of the fishermen.