

stipulations of the Treaty of Washington of 1871.

In the meantime a notice had been issued by Lord Monck, warning the citizens of the United States that their right to fish in British waters would cease on the 17th of March, 1866; and it became necessary to consider what measures should be adopted for the protection of British rights. Her Majesty's Government were very desirous to prevent, as far as possible, the injury and loss which must be inflicted upon citizens of the United States by a sudden withdrawal of the privileges enjoyed by them for twelve years; but with every desire in this direction, they found themselves bound by Acts both of the Imperial and Colonial Legislatures to enforce severe penalties upon all persons, not being British subjects, who might be found fishing within British jurisdiction.

Eventually, however, on the suggestion of Lord Monck, it was decided that American fishermen should be allowed during the year 1866 to fish in all Provincial waters upon the payment of a nominal license fee, to be exacted as a formal recognition of right. This system, after being maintained for four years, was discontinued, owing to the neglect of American fishermen to provide themselves with licences; and in 1870 it again became necessary to take strict measures for the enforcement of British rights. Orders were given to Admiral Wellesley to dispatch a sufficient force to Canadian waters to ensure the protection of Canadian fishermen and the maintenance of order, and to instruct the senior officer of such force to co-operate cordially with any United States' force sent on the same service. It was also found necessary to employ a local Marine Police Force for the same purpose.

Licensing system adopted in 1866,  
and abandoned in 1870.

The result of these measures was the capture and forfeiture of several American vessels for infringing the provisions of the Convention of 1818, both by fishing within British waters, and by frequenting Canadian ports for objects not permitted by the Convention; and notwithstanding the steps taken by the British Government to mitigate as far as possible the stringency of the