

CANADA.

brought to a termination, where the captor was a Colonial officer, acting under Colonial law.

7. The presence of ships of war is necessary so long as ships of war of the United States are stationed off the coasts; and they are always useful as auxiliaries when so employed; but they are not suited for the general requirements of the preventative service, which should mainly be carried on by vessels similar in appearance and rig to the fishing vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. FANSHAWE,
Vice-Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

P.S. A copy of this letter and the enclosed reports will be forwarded to the Governor-General of Canada; and another, with such of the reports as relate to Prince Edward Island, to the Governor of that colony.

SCHEDULE OF ENCLOSURES in Vice-Admiral Fanshawe's letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

No. 55 of 1870.

GENERAL REPORTS ON CANADIAN FISHERIES.

	1870.	From	To	Subject.
1.	18 Nov.	Britomart	Comm.-in-Chief.	Stations 1 and 2 (Bay of Fundy).
2.	19 ,,	Cherub	,,	Station 2 (East Coast, Bay of Fundy), and 5 (Prince Edward Island).
3.	1 ,,	Royalist	,,	Station 3 (East Coast, Cape Breton).
4.	7 ,,	Lapwing	,,	Station 4 (West Coast, Cape Breton.)
5.	28 July.	Philomel	,,	Stations 4 and 5 (North Coast, Prince Edward Island).
6.	18 Nov.	Plover	,,	Station, No. 5.
7.	17 Sept.	Valorous	,,	Station, No. 6 (North Coast, New Brunswick).
8.	15 Nov.	Sphinx	,,	Station, No. 6.

REPORT ON THE FISHERIES ON NOS. 1 AND 2 STATIONS, BAY OF FUNDY.

H.M.G.B. *Britomart*, at Halifax,
18th November, 1870.

SIR,

I have the honour to report that I arrived in the Bay of Fundy on 27th July, with orders to relieve H.M.S. *Plover*, and take charge of Fishing Station No 1.

Before leaving St. John, N.B., on 1st August, I received further orders to relieve the *Cherub*, and take charge of her Station (Fishing Station No 2) as well.

2. At that time the only fishing that required looking after was the Mackerel Fishery in St. Mary Bay, N.S.

The mackerel generally strike up the Bay about the middle of August, but this year they were a fortnight earlier than usual. Vessels from all parts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were engaged in the Fishery. At the beginning of August there were a few Americans in the Bay; they left immediately they received information there was a man-of-war cruising. The inhabitants on the Nova Scotia Coast, from St. Mary Bay to Cape Sable, I believe, prefer the Americans coming in, as they are in the habit of selling their stores, bait, and ice, and gave them every information as to my movements. The fishermen, very few of whom actually belong to that part of the coast, dislike the Americans fishing. With a man-of-war in the Bay of Fundy, occasionally looking in to St. Mary Bay, it is not worth an American vessel's while running the risk of fishing there—St. Mary Bay being little over six miles broad in any part, which, of course, greatly increases the danger of being taken. They also, in the months of August and September, have got good mackerel fishing on their own coast, off Mount Desert, their principal difficulty being want of bait, which they try to obtain at Grand Manan.

The mackerel fishing is all over about the middle of September. The take this season was only fair, the fish not biting well, though they were very plentiful.

3. The mackerel fishing being over, nearly all the fishing on Station No. 2 (Nova Scotia Coast) is much beyond the three-mile limit, principally on the banks off Cape Sable, and Seal Island. for cod and halibut. It is carried on all the winter.