

OTTAWA, 8th January, 1880.

The Sub-Collector of Customs, Port Mulgrave, N. S.
Enclose Guysboro, N. S.

SIR,—Having brought under the consideration of the Hon. the Minister of Customs your letter of the 11th ultimo, in relation to the seizure of the schooner *M. M. Chase*, I am desired to inform you that the seizure is confirmed, and that the \$400 penalty paid, as a condition of her release, is forfeited, and that, as regards the oil, it will have to be mixed with heavier oil, so as to bring it to the proper standard, and then dispose of it to the best advantage.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) J. JOHNSON, *Commissioner of Customs.*

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
CHARLOTTETOWN, 19th January, 1880.

To the Commissioner of Customs, Ottawa.

DEAR SIR,—On the 13th of last month, I deposited with Mr. Wolff, an Inspector of your Department, at that time in this city, four hundred dollars, to secure the payment of any penalty that might be assessed by you, against the American schooner *M. M. Chase*, for an alleged infraction of the Dominion revenue laws by master of said schooner, at Georgetown, Prince Edward Island. The vessel was seized at Port Mulgrave, and was released upon the deposit of the four hundred dollars as above stated.

Since the departure of Mr. Wolff, I have had no information in regard to the case. Has there been any decision in the case? You are aware that I suppose the fault was entirely with the master, that the oil (6 barrels in all) was aboard the vessel against express orders of the owner of the vessel.

I hope you will try and be as lenient as possible, as whatever penalty you assess will have to be paid by the owners. I would be glad to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) D. M. DUNN, *U. S. Consul.*

OTTAWA, 29th January, 1880.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, respecting the penalty of \$400 deposited with Mr. Wolff, when in Charlottetown, as a condition for the release of the American schooner *M. M. Chase*, subject to the decision of the Minister of Customs, I have the honor to inform you, that after due consideration of the case, no other course was left to the Minister but to confirm the payment of the penalty in question, it being out of his power, under the circumstances of the case, to reduce said penalty, and instructions to that effect were sent to the Customs authorities at Port Mulgrave on the 8th instant.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. JOHNSON, *Commissioner of Customs.*

D. M. DUNN, Esq., U.S. Consul,
Charlottetown, P.E.I.