

of these Colonies under circumstances of suspicion. But they should not be carried into port except after wilful and persevering neglect of the warnings which they may have received; and in case it should become necessary to proceed to forfeiture, cases should, if possible, be selected for that extreme step in which the offence of fishing has been committed within three miles of land.

Her Majesty's Government do not desire that the prohibition to enter British bays should be generally insisted on, except when there is reason to apprehend some substantial invasion of British rights. And in particular, they do not desire American vessels to be prevented from navigating the Gut of Canso (from which Her Majesty's Government are advised they might be lawfully excluded), unless it shall appear that this permission is used to the injury of Colonial fishermen, or for other improper objects.

I have it in command to make this communication to your Lordships as conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

*I have &c*

*(S<sup>d</sup>) Edward Cardwell.*

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