

Correspondence respecting Occurrences at Fortune Bay,  
Newfoundland, in January 1878.

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No. 1.

*Mr. Malcolm to Lord Tenterden.—(Received March 12.)*

Sir,

*Downing Street, March 12, 1878.*

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before the Earl of Derby, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Newfoundland, reporting certain differences which had arisen between British and United States' fishermen in Fortune Bay in that island, resulting in the destruction of a seine belonging to an American subject.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) W. R. MALCOLM.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

*Governor Sir J. Glover to the Earl of Carnarvon.*

My Lord,

*Government House, February 11, 1878.*

I REGRET to have to report the destruction of an American seine by our fishermen in Fortune Bay on the 6th ultimo, the news of which only reached me through a cable telegram from London on the 4th instant.

2. On receipt of this intelligence I at once caused an inquiry to be instituted to ascertain the truth of the report, but the result of the inquiry has not yet reached me from Fortune Bay. I have the honour to inclose the only information I have as yet been able to obtain, viz., the deposition of the master of a vessel who was present at the time.

3. It would appear that the Americans were guilty of three illegal acts, viz.:—

1st. As regards the time in which a seine may be used.

(See Acts 1876, cap 6, in Amendment of Consolidated Statutes, 1872, cap. 102).

2nd. In barring (same Act).

3rd. By putting out nets or seines between 12 o'clock on Saturday night and 12 o'clock on Sunday night.

(Acts 1876, cap. 6, sec. 4.)

4. As two out of the five seines were removed by our people without injury or damage, and two by the Americans themselves, I conclude that opposition was raised on the part of the American owner to the removal of the fifth.

5. I inclose the opinion of the Attorney-General, which that gentleman has placed in my hands, and I hope to be enabled to send full information by the next mail.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN H. GLOVER.

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