

to turn in it, we only occupied a small, and that by no means the best part of a large apartment, where there was sufficient space for both, and where I hoped we should ever be friends.

I then, my Lord, repeated in a more serious manner the same solemn assurances with which I began.

The whole passed with much more good humour than I expected. M. de Vergennes was very fair, candid, and moderate, and I more than once paid him a very just compliment upon the polite, liberal manner in which he treats.

Your Lordship sees that there was no occasion for my making any use of the instructions sent me in your Secret letter No. 6. I would fain flatter myself that I have now executed the King's orders to His Majesty's satisfaction—I am sure I have done it to the utmost of my ability.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) STORMONT.

No. 6.

*Viscount Weymouth to Viscount Stormont.*

(No. 15.)

My Lord,

*St. James', March 8, 1776.*

HIS Majesty is extremely desirous to give every proper satisfactory proof to the Court of France of the sincerity of his assurances, that he does not intend to suffer the smallest interruption to be given to their enjoyment of the fishery on the coast of Newfoundland to the full extent of what is allowed them by Treaty, at the same time that the rights of his subjects oblige His Majesty to claim the full sovereignty of the island, which, as your Excellency has very properly stated to M. de Vergennes, is only urged in answer to the objections made by M. de Guines to the scdentary fishery, and not with intention to support those resident fishers.

The inclosed instructions to the Governor of Newfoundland, which His Majesty has no doubt will be strictly attended to, are evident marks of his desire that the Treaty should be explained in the most liberal manner, and that every just cause of complaint may be removed.

His Majesty has not limited his attention, on the present occasion, to this object alone, and fearing the Islands of Miquelon and St. Pierre might receive considerable inconvenience from the Act lately passed for prohibiting all intercourse with any of our Colonies in rebellion, has directed that the subjects of France, having establishments on those islands, be permitted to supply themselves from the Island of Newfoundland with every species of lumber that shall be necessary for them.

Your Excellency, in communicating the inclosed instructions to M. de Vergennes, will accompany them with such expressions as shall make that Minister sensible of His Majesty's desire to contribute everything in his power that shall evince his friendly intentions, and maintain the harmony subsisting between the two Courts, so desirable for the happiness of Europe.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) WEYMOUTH.

Inclosure in No. 6.

*Instructions to the Governor of Newfoundland.*

WHEREAS it hath been represented unto us that, notwithstanding the precise and positive instructions given from time to time to our Governors of Newfoundland for the due execution, in the most liberal construction of the Treaty of Paris, of those stipulations of that Treaty which regard the right of the subjects of France to exercise and enjoy, in common with our subjects, the privileges of drying and curing fish within any parts of the harbour and coasts of that island which lye between Bonavista and Point Riche, yet, nevertheless, our Royal will and intentions, so fully expressed in those instructions, have been defeated, and the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty have been obstructed and molested in the enjoyment of those privileges, by means of sundry claims of our subjects to private property on parts of the said sea-coast, and within the said harbours, set up on various unwarrantable pretences of grants made by our Governors of Newfound-