

say, and being numbered as the "Bassin", it is impossible for fishermen to detect or capture them. Mr Beeching had one of his trawlers captured by the fishery cruiser 'Vigilant' last summer; the master was tried at Campbeltown and fined. After the court was over Beeching told the commander of the 'Vigilant' that his vessels would fish in Scotch waters in defiance of the Fishery Board, which the numbering of the 'Bassin' shews.

As to the charge made that the Board's officers are prejudiced against steam trawlers generally, I think he is mistaken. As long as they keep outside the prescribed limits, no one will interfere with them, but when I have any suspicion that a fishing vessel of any kind has been fishing in my district not properly numbered, I consider it my duty to investigate the matter.

I have &c,

Ed James Donaldson

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