

year sees the Island rid for all time of French and American claims to fishing rights on portions of its coastline.

The Colony's laws, records, customs and traditions all smack of the sea. Its earliest rulers were "fishing admirals," the captain of the first ship arriving here annually being admiral for the year, the second vice-admiral, and the third rear-admiral, a crude and makeshift method that still survives in the admirals of the North Sea fishing fleet. Following these came naval controllers and floating surrogates, who in their turn gave place to governors, all of them warship captains or admirals—who only spent the fishing season in the Island—until 1825, when the first permanent resident governor was appointed. Even until to-day, as is natural in a country whose fisheries are her chief reliance, all other matters are overshadowed by those which relate to the harvesting of its finny wealth.

Of late years, the Colony has been developing substantial interests along other lines, however, and the utilization of its farm and mine and forest resources, has tended to create industrial agencies that, while still subsidiary to the fisheries, will yet, in the aggregate, make them a substantial competitor thereto in the years to come. Its attractions as a sporting and health resort have also been made more widely known in recent times, and the future promises to see Newfoundland attain a degree of prosperity once supposed impossible, and its people secure for the fruits of their arduous labours a more generous return, to which the hardships and hazards of their main avocation manifestly entitle them.