

preferable to the South in the Expence of catching, curing, and drying of Fish; and, likewise, how much sooner the *French* got to the Markets than they did, as well as the Preference that was given to their Fish, which encouraged our People to make an Attempt to fish there also; having, by the Treaty, more than an equal Right, upon the North Part of the Coast of the said Island: But they found, that the *French* had not only built Hutts and Stages on all the best Parts of that Coast, but assumed an exclusive Right of fishing there: So that in or about the Year 1742, they fired on our Fishing Vessels, and destroyed some of their Boats. Complaints of those Insults being made to our then Ministers, a Remonstrance was made to the Court of *France*; but no Satisfaction being insisted on, on our Side, the *English* Fishermen never ventured to go there any more, lest further Mischief should ensue. The *French* then so far succeeded in that most valuable Branch of Trade, as to get the Preference in most of the *European* Markets; which, at a moderate Computation, makes a Difference, to this Nation, in the Sale of Fish, of upwards of Two Millions