

Thus, by contrasting the whole quantities of those different kinds of salted provisions, which were exported from Ireland and the United States, about the same time, we see such a superiority in the first market over the second, as to leave the merchant little room for choice. The Irish supply is vastly greater; the prices are nearly equal; yet it must be observed, that the Irish barrel is somewhat smaller, while the quality is infinitely preferable. Considering how much our West-India vessels have hitherto wanted freights, and how commodious the ports of Ireland are to the shipping from the Western coast of Britain, the salted provisions of Ireland may be thence transported cheaper to the West Indies, than from the nearer shores of the United States. And the Irish beef and pork and butter were always preferred in the West India markets, and even in the markets of the revolted Colonies. Britain too, we have seen, can furnish no inconsiderable quantity of all those articles. To preserve the supplying of salted provisions to Britain and Ireland, by excluding the competition of the United States was the ruling principle of the late regulations. And thus from the independence of the revolted Colonies have we gained all the benefits of the supply and the still more important advantage of the freights.

The wisdom of that regulation, and the advantages which Britain will gain from that signal event, will appear in a still clearer light, if we take a comprehensive view of our fisheries; which, as the  
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