

they come home, become pretty good sailors; and 'tis certain these fisheries are some of the best nurseries for sailors that we have; for 'tis a laborious business, and they employ'd in it endure all weathers; the sailors rais'd therein are inur'd to hardships, and yet grow strong, from the healthfulness of the northern climate.

The shipping us'd in these fisheries require great quantities of sail-cloth, (now a valuable manufacture of our own, which heretofore we were supply'd with from the Dutch) cordage, iron-work, &c. in which trade abundance of people in these kingdoms get good livelihoods for themselves and families.

The French, by the treaty of Utrecht, were admitted to fish from Cape-Bonavista (on the island Newfoundland) to the northern point of the island, and from thence running down by the western side to Cape or Point-Riche, and no further; and were allow'd to dry their fish on land, within these limits; which they have continued to do ever since; and not only so, but have greatly encroach'd on that liberty, by extending their fishery down on that side of the land to Cape-Ray; and, to justify this, they have made Point-Riche in their maps to be but 16 leagues from the north end of the island Breton; whereas that which they so miscall is Cape-Ray, and Point-Rich lies 56 leagues more northerly, up the bay of St. Laurence: and since the commencement of the war with Spain, the French have found the sweets of supplying the Spanish markets; which will doubtless induce them yet to extend their fisheries as much as possible.

By the treaty of Utrecht we unhappily exchanged Cape-Breton for Placentia, and gave the French the aforesaid liberty on Newfoundland; since which they have carry'd on an unbounded fishery, wherein, 'tis asserted, and by good judges, that they employ a thousand sail of ships annually, from 200 to 400 tons burthen, and 20,000 men on board them. There was a computation made in the year 1730, that there was then lying at Marsilles, for a market, 220,000 quintals of cod-fish: And 'tis judg'd that they cure (communibus annis) above five millions of quintals.