

numbers, and the cultivation of the country, will enable them to attend to the business, and to reap the benefit of their local situation and circumstances.

The principal fishing posts in Lower Canada are at Gaspe, Percee, and Bonaventure Island, and labour under the disadvantage of being situated in a part of the country incapable of producing the necessaries of life they consume, and in which, after the fishing season is over, there is no employment for the people, who are mostly obliged in consequence to go to Quebec, in the autumn; there they scatter over the country to seek for employment till the return of the next fishing season; they are then to be collected and sent a distance of four hundred miles down the River St. Lawrence, and from the prevalence of the easterly winds in the spring, they are often three weeks and a month on wages and provisions before they ever wet a line for their employers, and sometimes lose the first part of the season entirely, which