
THE COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into the State of the Trade to *NEWFOUNDLAND*, and to report the same, as it shall appear to them, to the House; and who were impowered to report their Proceedings, from Time to Time, to the House;

HAVE made a further Progress in the Matters to them referred, and have examined several other Witnesses; the Substance of whose Evidence is as follows:

WILLIAM KNOX, Esquire, (formerly one of the Under Secretaries of State) being called in, and examined, said, He was now an Adventurer in the Newfoundland Fishery, and has been so since the Year 1788.—And being asked, To what Inconveniencies did he find the Trade exposed? he said, One Complaint arises from the Shipping being subject to Custom House Regulations, and the Payment of Fees in Consequence of it.—And being asked, Whether he knew the Purpose for which the Custom House was established? he said, When Duties were laid in America, in 1766, the Commissioners of the Revenue who were sent out there appointed Custom House Officers in Newfoundland to collect those Duties; before that Time Naval Officers, appointed by the Governor to take Care that the Laws of Trade were duly observed, were the only Officers of the Kind in the Island; but although those Duties were afterwards repealed, the Custom House Officers were continued, notwithstanding they have now no other Duty to perform than what was formerly done by the Naval Officers, and especially as by the Act of the Twentieth Year of His present Majesty, no Duties can be imposed by Act of Parliament in any of the British Colonies or Plantations,