

B I L L.

An Act to remove all doubts as to the right of Her Majesty's subjects in Canada carrying on the Fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, to land and occupy for the necessary purposes thereof any unoccupied places on the North Shore or Labrador, within the limits of the Province, they may deem suitable thereto, and freely to carry on their Fisheries thereat.

WHEREAS the Whale, Seal, Cod, Mackarel, Herring, and other Fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence are of great importance to Her Majesty's subjects in this Province, several of whom concerned in those fisheries have been of late years by strong hand prevented by persons residing on or frequenting the Labrador or North Shore of the said Gulf, from making on the coasts thereof and islands contiguous thereto, although uninhabited and waste, the temporary buildings, Try Houses, Sheds, Stages, Flakes, and other erections necessary to the carrying on of those fisheries, some of such persons pretending that as proprietors or lessees of the Seignories or occupants of the principal posts or places established on the said coasts for the purpose of trading with the native Indians, they have an exclusive right to the fishing, hunting, and trade with the Indians on the said coast, and in some instances have under pretext thereof violently dispossessed persons of the temporary erections they had constructed in waste and unoccupied parts of the said coast and islands, as trespassers thereupon, but who nevertheless, in the lawful pursuit of such fisheries, have as British Subjects a right to land and construct such erections on the waste and unoccupied parts of the coast, not disturbing nor interfering with the previous occupants, and are entitled as pursuing an important branch of public and national industry, to every facility which, without injury to planters and those permanently settled on the coast, the various localities on the said coast and islands contiguous to the same can afford, and it therefore is expedient to declare and enact as hereinafter it is done, Be it therefore declared and enacted, etc.

And it is hereby declared and enacted by the authority of the same, that all and every Her Majesty's Subjects carrying on or concerned in the Whale, Seal, Cod, and other fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence shall peaceably

Her Majesty's
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certain
Fisheries
declared to