

American craft (chiefly schooners) catch their load of Fish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and chiefly on the Orphan Bank, and many close to the Islands of Miscou and Shipagan; as soon as the Gulf is free of Ice, the American craft take their station, so that before the 30th May, there are generally several hundreds on the Orphan Bank only, and its vicinity, this year their Fishery on these Banks has not been very abundant, so that next year more of them might go to the Northward than this year.

Thus, without their bounds, the Americans load their vessels with Fish, to the great prejudice and annoyance of His Britannic Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects; for the first Article of the Treaty of Commerce, clearly and evidently prescribes their bounds, "From Cape Ray (Newfoundland) to the Rameau Islands, from said Cape Ray to the Quirpon Islands, or to the shores of the Magdalen Islands, and along the Coasts, &c. from Mount Joli, on the Southern Coasts of Labradore, and thro' the Straits of Belle-Isle, and thence Northwardly, indefinitely along its Coasts, &c. &c." further in the same Article of the Treaty, it is said: "And the United States hereby renounce for ever any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the Inhabitants thereof, to take, kill or cure Fish, on or within three Marine Miles, of any of the Coasts, Bays, Creeks or harbours of His Britannic Majesty's Dominions in America, not included within the above mentioned limits, &c. &c." From the above extract of the first Article of the convention concluded at London, on the 20th October 1818, between Great-Britain and the United States of America, it is evident that since that period, the American Fishermen have acted in direct violation of this Treaty, by arrogantly and obstinately transgressing the generous bounds thereby allowed them, for it is too well known and felt, that they continue to fish on the Coasts of Nova-Scotia and the Coasts of New-Brunswick, to the very great prejudice and annoyance of His Britannic Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects of these Provinces, tho' as before stated, the American States have renounced by the Treaty, for ever, any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the Inhabitants thereof to take, cure, &c. We are sorry the Americans should be allowed to fish in any part of the Gulf, yet it is far from our intention to scrutinize or presume to fathom the causes which have occasioned His Majesty's Government to allow them such generous bounds, from Cape Ray, &c. as above noted; but we most earnestly entreat that His Majesty's Government would oblige the Americans to keep within the limits allowed them by Treaty—it is grievous to every British subject, who reflects for a moment, that if the Americans (who are on the progressive, in every respect) continue the Cod Fishery, as they have done of late, the British Merchant engaged in that still extensive and valuable branch of trade, will be obliged to abandon it: and that thereby it will fall to the lot of the Americans, to the great prejudice of thousands of His Majesty's faithful and loyal sub-