

as well from Necessity as Inclination, on such Occasions, and Three Fourths of them are Roman Catholicks.

Those Inhabitants, besides being a Loss to this Country, are a Nuisance to that, particularly by their great Consumption of Wood for Fuel, causing a Scarcity thereof at Hand for the Use of the Fishery; and this lays the Country more and more open to an invading Enemy.

By an Inhabitant Fishery, the Regulations in the Act for employing Green Men for the Increase of Fishermen and Seamen, is totally defeated; nor have we such Increase, though the Public supposes it is our best Nursery; nor can there be any Fishing Admirals of Harbours, consequently the Law, and all the Rules and Regulations, together with the Power for executing them, are in Effect superseded, and every National Good intended by that Law is defeated; they are the unfittest People to be employed in the Fishery, being habituated to Idleness, Debaucheries, and Wickedness; they are Strangers to the Mother Country, to Government, Religion, and good Order, which is the Mother of Labour and Industry, therefore they are neither laborious nor industrious, they have no Motive to be so, for they are no better than the Property or Slaves of the Merchant Suppliers, to whom, by exorbitant high Prices of their Goods, they are all largely in Debt, more than they can ever work out during Life; they have hitherto had no Means of freeing themselves from that State of perpetual Servitude, therefore the Fishery still went on, though universally allowed to be Yearly declining. People doomed to perpetual Servitude are ever wishing for change of Masters, so when Men find an Opportunity of becoming free and independent, they will certainly embrace it; therefore, now that the French have a Territory in the Midst of the Fishery, there is no Doubt but these People will fly there, as many have already done, with their Boats, Tackle, Fish and all, or become Fishers for them, beginning a fresh Score for Supplies with them, which great Numbers have already done; thus the Fishery and Men also are on the Point of being lost, who will hereafter be wholly employed for the French both in Fishing and clandestine Trade, to the utter Ruin of our Trade and Fishery.

The next most important National Object from the Fishery, as set forth in the Preamble to the Act, is to increase the Consumption of the Produce and Manufactories of this Kingdom, and for promoting Trade and Navigation. How an Inhabitant Fishery operates in this Respect may be judged of from the following Facts:

These 16 or 20 Thousand Inhabitants, as well as others employed in the Fishery, are subsisted and supplied as follows:

From England	— —	{ With a very small Quantity of Provisions of any Kind, scarce sufficient to victual the Men that navigate the Ships for their Passage out.
From Ireland	— —	{ With almost all their Beef, Pork, Butter, Linnen, and some Manufactories clandestinely brought in.

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