

important Public Good done to this Kingdom since the Revolution.

Our Rivals in the *American* Fishery, see with Regret and Envy, what a Counterpoise this Colony may prove to their ambitious Designs, of exalting their Naval Power, by the sole Possession of that Fishery : And therefore to disappoint our Measures, they have (we are told) made an Encroachment, and are actually establishing a Settlement within our Limits, as ceded by the Treaty of *Utrecht*. In answer to our Remonstrances, they offer to adjust the Limits by *Commissaries* ; the old Artifice of gaining Time to strengthen their Settlement, and then to support it by Force : or, by Negotiation to obtain, what they cannot in Justice demand. But surely there is Spirit enough yet left in *Britain*, not to suffer an apparent Right *even to be disputed* ; but to drive out the Encroachers, as the *French* did, with much less Justice, our Settlers from *St. Lucia*.

Having thus, in a short Digression, paid my Devoirs to our new Friends, (with whom I must beg Leave to expostulate more hereafter) it is Time to return to our old Allies the *Dutch*, and examine the Charge against them, for presuming to fish for Herrings upon the North Coast of *Great Britain*.

That the Herring Fishery upon that Coast, is our undoubted Right ; and perhaps, one of Nature's best Gifts to this Kingdom, cannot be denied with any shew of Reason : But if by Indolence, or Inattention to our chief Interest,

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