

carried on by Great Britain became of great national consideration. Dewitt observes, "that the English navy became formidable by the discovery of the inexpressibly rich fishing banks of Newfoundland.

1713. Treaty of Utrecht, in which the value and importance of fisheries of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New England were particularly regarded.

1745. Louisburg taken from French, by which that country lost fisheries valued at £928,000 sterling a year.

1748. English restored Cape Breton in return for Madras.

1759. Cape Breton, Newfoundland and Canada surrendered to Great Britain.

FRENCH FISHERIES.

1763. Treaty of Paris—5th and 6th articles are as follows:—That the French shall have liberty of fishing and drying on a part of the coasts of Newfoundland as specified in the 13th article of the Treaty of Utrecht and that the French may also fish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; so that they do not exercise the same but at the distance of three leagues from all the coasts belonging to Great Britain, as well those of the continent as those of the islands of the said gulf. And as to what relates to the fisheries out of the said gulf, the French shall exercise the same but at the distance of fifteen leagues from the coast if Great Britain cedes to France, to serve as a shelter for the French fishermen, the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, and His Most Christian Majesty obliges himself on his royal word not to fortify the said island nor to erect any other buildings thereon but merely for the convenience of the fishery and to keep no more than 50 men for their police."

1783. Treaty of Versailles. French renounce fishery secured to them by Treaty of Utrecht between Cape Bonavista and Cape St. John on east coast of Newfoundland. The limits of the fishery on coast of Newfoundland then assigned to the subjects of France were described as follows:—"Beginning at the said Cape St. John, passing to the north and descending the western coast of the Island of Newfoundland, shall extend to the place called Cape Ray, situated in 47° 50' north latitude." With regard to the fishery on the Gulf of St. Lawrence it was agreed that the French should continue to exercise it conformably to the 5th article of the Treaty of Paris (1763). At the time of signing the Treaty of Versailles, 3rd September, 1783, a declaration of the King of England was delivered to the King of France, which recited that the King would take the most positive measures for preventing his subjects from interrupting French fishermen upon coasts of Newfoundland and for that purpose would cause the fixed settlements found there to be removed. It was declared that the mode of carrying on the fishery should be in conformity with the 13th article of Treaty of Utrecht which should not be deviated from by either party; that the French fishermen should only build scaffolds, confine themselves to the repair of their vessels and should not winter there. A counter declaration was signed by the King of France agreeing that the fisheries between the Islands of Newfoundland and the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon should be carried on by either party only to the middle of the channel.