

6-7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

on, it will be your Duty to make the Interests of Our British Subjects going out to fish there in Ships fitted out from Great Britain the first object of your care, and, as far as circumstances will admit, to establish on that Coast the Regulations in favour of British fishing Ships, which have been so wisely adopted by the Act of Parliament passed in the Reign of King William the Third "for the encouragement of the Newfoundland Fishery ;" and you are on no account to allow any possession to be taken, or sedentary Fisheries to be established upon any parts of the Coast, that are not already private Property, by any persons whatever, except only such as shall produce annually a Certificate of their having fitted out from some Port in Great Britain.

37. We have mentioned to you the Fisheries upon the Coast of Labrador, as the main object of your attention ; but the Commerce carried on with Savages of that Coast, and the state and condition of those Savages deserve some regard ; The Society of Unitas Fratrum, urged by a laudable Zeal for promoting Christianity, has already, under Our Protection, and with Our Permission, formed Establishments in the Northern parts of that Coast for the purposes of civilizing the Natives, and converting them to the Christian Religion. Their success has been answerable to their Zeal ; and it is Our express Will and Pleasure, that you do give them every countenance and Encouragement in your power, and that you do not allow any Establishment to be made, but with their consent, within the limits of their possessions.

38. By Our Commission to you under Our Great Seal of Great Britain you are authorised and empowered, with the advice and consent of Our Council, to settle and agree with the Inhabitants of Our said Province of Quebec for such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, as now are, or shall hereafter be in Our Power to dispose of. It is therefore Our Will and Pleasure, that all Lands, which now are, or hereafter may be subject to Our Disposal, be granted in Fief or Seigneurie, in like manner as was practiced antecedent to the Conquest of the said Province; omitting however in any Grant, that shall be passed of such Lands, the Reservation of any Judicial powers, or privileges whatever. And it is Our further Will and Pleasure, that all Grants in Fief or Seigneurie, so to be passed by you, as aforesaid, be made subject to Our Royal Ratification, or Disallowance, and to a due Registry thereof within a limited time, in like manner as was practised in regard to Grants and Concessions held in Fief and Seigneurie under the French Government.

39. It is Our Will and Pleasure however, that no Grants be made of any Lands, on which there is any considerable growth of white Pines fit for Masting Our Royal Navy, and which lie convenient for water carriage ; But that you do cause all such Lands to be set apart for Our Use, and proper regulations made, and penalties inflicted, to prevent trespasses on such Tracts, and the cutting down, or destroying the Trees growing thereon.