

King's Dominions in Europe, in the Prefence of a Justice of the Peace, such Justice attesting such Indorsement: A Form of the Bills to be used for this Purpose to be annexed to the Act.

Of the Government or Superintendency of the Fisheries.

The Prosperity of the Fishery requires, in all Disputes and Differences, short, speedy, and unexpensive Issues; and the Act of the 10th and 11th of William III. directs, that certain Disputes and Differences shall be determined on the Spot, in a summary Way, by the Admirals, appealable to the Captains of the King's Ships. But under the present Management of the Fisheries there are no Admirals for hearing and determining such Matters; which is the Occasion of many endless Disputes, to the great Obstruction of the Fishery, and Loss to the Public. It is therefore absolutely necessary to restore the Ship Fishery, to renew, support, and extend the Admirals Powers; but no Admirals, no Captains of King's Ships, no Commodore nor Governor, should meddle in any Matters but what are purely relative to the Fishery, for preventing Obstructions thereto, for preserving the Peace, keeping good Order amongst the Fishermen, and for immediate Trial of Capital Offences; but all Matters of Disputes amongst Merchants concerning their Accounts, or Matter relative to Trade, should be heard and determined only in Britain. This will prevent People staying in the Country; also remedy such incredible Practices of Knavery and unfair Dealings as no Trade whatever can prosper under, and which cannot otherways be remedied.

When the Fishing Admiral's lawful Authority is restored and supported, and the Country cleared of a Number of idle Men in the Winter, there will be no Want of Justices of the Peace. It is they that have put an End to the Ship Fishery, by not suffering the Fishing Admirals to act in the respective Harbours; and such Justices being all People concerned in Trade, they use their Authority for no other Purpose but to favour Monopoly, and are guilty of the most shameful Partialities and Injustices, to the very great Prejudice of the Fishery.

To prevent the great Loss to the Fishery and to the Public by so many Men running from that Country to the Plantations every Year, let it be ordered that no Vessels belonging to, or bound to or arriving from any of the Plantations, shall be allowed to stay in any Part of the Government of Newfoundland after the 10th Day of October, on which Day the Fishermen are usually discharged; nor any such Vessel be permitted at any Time to take on Board any Men Passengers without a Permit in Writing from the Governor only, on Forfeiture of such Vessel, the Captains of the King's Ships to be authorized to seize such Vessels having on Board more Men than for their Navigation, at the Rate of                      Men per Hundred Tons. This will also prevent any People from the Colonies coming to Newfoundland to carry on the Fisheries, to the Prejudice of the British Merchants and Shipping, contrary to the Meaning of the Fishing Act.