

garrison capitulated. 'The lily of France never took root in the soil of Newfoundland, and from this date the inhabitants were troubled no more with the attempts of the French. In the following year, 1763, the *Peace of Paris* ended the seven years' war, but left the French in the enjoyment of the same fishery rights in Newfoundland as had been secured to them by the treaty of Utrecht. The fixed inhabitants of the island had increased at this date to about 8,000, while 5,000 more were summer residents who returned home every winter.

IMPROVEMENTS—1765.

In a brief historical sketch, such as this, it is impossible to enter into any details regarding the events of the next fifty years, and only a few of the more important points in the history can be glanced at. Additional strength was imparted to the local government, in 1765, by the extension of the Navigation Laws to Newfoundland, and the formal recognition of it as one of his Majesty's "Plantations" or Colonies. A Custom House was also established, at the same time, for the regulation of the trade. Against this "innovation" the merchants and fishing adventurers protested clamorously but vainly. About this time "the coast of Labrador, from the entrance of Hudson's Strait to the river St. John's, opposite the west end of the island of Anticosti," was attached to the governorship of Newfoundland, and greatly increased its importance. A survey of the coasts was carried out by Captain Cook, the distinguished navigator, under the direction of Captain Palliser, the Governor. Cook, who had taken part in the recapture of St. John's from the French in 1762, spent the five following years in this work, and constructed valuable charts of the coasts, many of which are still in use. In 1775, an Act was passed by the British Parliament for the encouragement of the fisheries which is commonly called "Palliser's Act," having been drawn up mainly under the advice of Governor Palliser. While this Act secured to British European subjects the exclusive privilege of drying fish in Newfoundland and gave several bounties for encouraging the fisheries, it secured to fishermen their proper share in the voyage by giving them a *lien* or prior claim on the fish-oil, for their due payment. But its main object was to perpetuate the old system of a ship-fishery from England, as a means of strengthening the navy of the kingdom; and for this end it provided a heavy penalty to oblige masters to secure the return of the seamen to England. Being thus opposed to the best interests of the Colonists, it proved to be a most unpopular Act, and was submitted to in sullen discontent.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

The year 1784 was signalised by another most important measure for ameliorating the condition of the inhabitants. A proclamation of Governor Campbell granted "full liberty of conscience, and the free exercise of all such modes of religious worship as are not prohibited by law." This measure was sorely needed to put an end to the religious persecution which had for some time disgraced the government of the country. The spirit of intolerance, which, at this era, was un-