

the *French* may be estimated from the Advantages which they have reaped from it since it has been in their Possession.

Altho' the Harbour of *Louisbourg* is not a very good one for Shipping, and the Island is barren; and but a small Number of Ships fish there, in Comparison of those which are employed in the *French* Fisheries on the Banks of *Newfoundland*, the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*, and the neighbouring Shores, Bays, Harbours, &c. yet the Situation of it is such, that all their fishing Vessels can repair thither on any Danger or Emergency; especially those which fish in the Gulf, on the *Main*, or at the Northwest of *Newfoundland*, none of which are above one or two Days Sail, at most, from *Louisbourg*; as may also those Vessels which load with Mud-Fish on the Banks; so that this Island is the Center and Protection of their whole Fishery: And of what Value that has been to them will appear by the following Computation taken of it from Persons intimately acquainted with every Branch of it, according to the State, in which it was carried on, the Year before the War.

According to this Computation the Quantity of their Fish caught that Year was 1,149,000 Quintals of dry Fish, and 3,900,000 Mud-Fish; the Value of both which, including 3,116½ Ton of Train Oil drawn from the Blubber, amounts to 926,577*l.* 10*s.* according to the prime Cost of the Fish at *Newfoundland*; and with the Addition of its Freight to the