

They were overwhelmed with mortification when they discovered that you did not deem them worthy of a hearing; as Men, as British Subjects they hoped for better treatment.

In no part of his Majesty's dominions does so small a population carry on so extensive a commerce. Five hundred and forty-eight sail of Merchant vessels from the 10th October 1810, to the 10th October 1811 entered the Harbour of Saint Johns, exclusive of a great many coasters and small craft. Such unequalled industry crowned with such success, which gives sinews to the British Navy, affords a good mart for British Produce and Manufacture; and which fills the coffers of the British Merchant, and of the British Government, should have obtained from a wise and just Parent, a treatment more affectionate and just, than that of depriving them of an inheritance *alone* rendered valuable by their Industry. While they are strongly impressed with these things, they have a full conviction that you wish them well, that you legislated with a view to their happiness and prosperity; they know that you do not know them, that they have hitherto been represented to you through a *medium* by which they have been distorted and obscured. It is the object of this letter to remove the veil that has concealed them, and to expose the evil genius that has hitherto blasted the fortunes of this Country.

In the year 1633, the star chamber issued an order for regulating the trade of Newfoundland, which forms the basis of those peculiar laws and customs that govern this Country.

In the year 1650, the council of State gave a commission to John Treworgay, merchant, with powers to order affairs there, for the best advantage of the state; A civi-