

9th

Trade.

The French bent their whole attention in this part of the World to the Fur Trade, they never enter'd heartly or with any spirit into the fisheries; most of what was done in this way was by adventurers from the ports of France; some Fish indeed Lumber and provisions were exported to the French islands. Had this trade been opened and agriculture promoted here with any degree of warmth, this branch of Commerce must have become both valuable and extensive, but it was monopolized into the hands of a few, by the connivance and management of the Chiefs, the sole view of these being to enrich themselves by every means. The interest of the State could not fail to be sacrificed upon all occasions.

By the best accounts we can procure, the value of Furs exported in the year 1754 and 1755 taken from the Duties paid thereon stood thus.

£64,495[“] 4[“] 7½..... (a).. in 1754..... 1,547,885[“] 11[“] 0.
 52,735[“] 8[“] 4 (b).. in 1755..... 1,265,650[“] 0[“] 0.

But the most intelligent Traders here estimate the exportation of this one article to have amounted one year with another to rear £140,000 Sterling p^r. annum.

The exportation of these two years apparently falls very short of this estimation, but it is probable a considerable quantity was run, for the value of imports amounted

(a) No. 7 shewing the species of Fur and Quebec price, (b) No. 8 Do.