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**Correspondence respecting the Newfoundland Fisheries:
1782-83.**

No. 1.

Mr. FitzHerbert to Lord Grantham.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 52.)
(Extract.)

Paris, August 17, 1782.

HAVING been frustrated in this attempt to procure immediately from M. de Vergennes a correct state of the demands of the French Court, I can only transmit to your Lordship for the present such particulars concerning them as I have been able to collect from other sources of intelligence, and the general result of which is as follows:—

In regard to the Newfoundland fishery, I understand that the French will expect, amongst other concessions, that we shall cede to them the full and entire sovereignty of that part of the said island which they have hitherto been permitted to frequent in the fishing season for the purpose of drying their fish, marking out by a precise boundary the limits of that district, and leaving them the entire and exclusive enjoyment of the fishery upon the coasts of it.

No. 2.

Mr. FitzHerbert to Lord Grantham.—(Received August 24.)

(No. 53.)
(Extract.)

Paris, August 21, 1782.

AGREEABLY to what I had the honour of mentioning to your Lordship in my last letter by Roworth, I saw M. de Vergennes yesterday by appointment from himself, and had a long conversation with him upon the point which stands first in order in the counter-proposition of this Court, I mean the Newfoundland fishery. He began his discourse on that subject by an historical deduction of the rights and possessions of the British and French nations in that quarter, as well before the Treaty of Utrecht as from that time downwards to the breaking out of the present hostilities. In the course of this, he stated the disputes which had arisen not long after the conclusion of the Treaty of Paris respecting the boundaries of that portion of the Island of Newfoundland which the French fishermen were allowed to resort to for the purpose of drying their fish, which disputes, he said, had turned on two points: the one, the true situation of the promontory called Pointe Riche, which the Treaty of Utrecht fixes as the limit of the aforesaid district to the south-west, and which we place in latitude 50° 30', whilst the French contend that it is situated much farther to the southward; the other, the encroachments which had been made on the said district by the British settlers, who had extended themselves along the eastern coast from Cape Bonavista to Cape St. John's, to the exclusion of the French fishermen. M. de Vergennes informed me further that a negotiation had been set on foot between the two Courts for the purpose of settling amicably these points whilst Lord Rochford was Secretary of State for the Southern Department, and that it was to all appearance in a fair way of being concluded when Lord Weymouth succeeding to that office, he (as M. de Vergennes asserts) disavowed all that his predecessor had done, and broke off the business. Having stated this, and