

Times as much Silver Coin as is on the Island, and would put the Property as well as the Person of every Importer in the Power of the Collector of these Duties, no Taxes being necessary of this Sort, unless it be for the Purpose of supporting Luxury and Idleness; that the Witness is informed, that at present they even keep Carriages at Newfoundland, to prepare Roads for which probably a Part of these Taxes may be applied, as the Roads have formerly been repaired out of the Public Money.

And being asked, What is the usual Price of Rum at Newfoundland? he said, It may be imported at, from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 3*d.* per Gallon; he has exported it from London at 1*s.* 9*d.*—And being asked, Would the Inhabitants of Newfoundland remove to Canada, if they had the Means? he said, The native Inhabitants used formerly to be much attached to Newfoundland, but he believes, from their present impoverished Situation, a great many would willingly go. The Residents, Natives of Ireland, would, he believes, be very glad of the Opportunity of going to Canada.—And being asked, Whether he supposed, that if a Sturgeon Fishery was established in Upper Canada, it would induce a Number of People to go from Newfoundland? he said, Certainly, if they had the Means of going.—And being asked, Whether he knew of any Instances of Attempts made to remove the Residents? he said, In the last War a Regiment and several Companies were raised for the Service of the War, which cleared the Island of many People, which was of great Service to the Fishery; Care however was taken by the Governor, that no British Seamen or Fishermen should be suffered to enlist.—And being asked, Whether he supposes the same Thing could be done now? he said, He thinks it may, with great Benefit to the Fishery, if the same Precautions were taken.

That with respect to the Return of Fishermen from Newfoundland to Europe, he begged leave to refer your Committee to what he had before related, on the Methods formerly used by the regular and established Merchants in this Trade for the carrying out Fishermen to Newfoundland from Great Britain and Ireland, and for their being returned Home at the End of the Fishing Season.

That in order to prevent a greater Increase of Residents there, by Fishermen and others being left at Newfoundland the Winter Season, more than are necessary for the Purposes of the Fisheries,