

The following Documents are submitted for the consideration of the Members of His Majesty's IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT, British Merchants, and others interested in the trade and prosperity of the British North American Colonies :—

*To Vice Admiral Sir Peter Halkett, G. C. H. Commander-in-Chief of H. M. Ships and Vessels of War, on the North American and West India Stations, &c. &c.*

THE MEMORIAL OF GEORGE HANDLEY, OF HALIFAX, IN THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA, MERCHANT,

*Respectfully Sheweth,*

That your Memorialist is an Englishman, and a loyal subject of His Majesty, and has never resided out of H. M. Dominions.

That your Memorialist has been engaged in business for upwards of 20 years in this town, and during that period has been interested in a greater or lesser degree, in the prosecution of the fisheries on the coasts of this and the neighboring Provinces, and of the Island of Newfoundland.

That your Memorialist had made arrangements early in the season for the prosecution of the fisheries on the said coasts, having provided good vessels, fitted with all things necessary and proper for the purpose, and having on board good and experienced masters and crews; but from the interference of foreigners fishing on the British coasts, your Memorialist has been subjected to heavy loss, and to a disappointment painful and unexpected as resulting from circumstances against which a British subject should not be called upon to guard.

That your Memorialist respectfully refers to the affidavits hereunto annexed, in which the facts of the cases respectively are detailed, and your Memorialist submits that it is impossible for British subjects under such circumstances to prosecute their business, and as the number of foreign fishermen on the Coasts before mentioned far exceeds the number of British fishermen, unless some protection is afforded to the latter, the British fisheries must be abandoned.

Your Memorialist would further respectfully refer to the treaties between Great Britain and France, and particularly the 13th Art. of the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713. 5 Art. of the Treaty of Paris, 1763—4th, 5th, & 6th Arts. of the Treaty signed at Versailles, 1783; British Declaration signed at Versailles, 1783; French Declaration of the same year, the 13 Art. of the Treaty of Paris, 1814, confirmed by the 11 Art. of the Treaty of 20th Nov. 1816, and also to the Act of Parliament, 3rd