
EXTRACT from a REPRESENTATION
of the Lords Commissioners for Trade
and Plantations to His MAJESTY, relating
to the *Newfoundland* Trade and Fishery;
dated 27th March 1766.

To the KING's Most Excellent MAJESTY.

May it please Your MAJESTY,

IT appearing from the Reports of the State of Newfoundland, made last Year to this Board by Your Majesty's Governor of that Island, that the Military Establishments were neglected, and the principal Fortifications in Ruins; that an illicit and destructive Commerce had been carried on between Your Majesty's Subjects there and the French at Miquelon and St. Peter's; that great Difficulties and Embarrassments had occurred in the Execution of the Instructions given by Your Majesty for the well ordering the Fishery in those Parts, where the Subjects of France are allowed by Treaty a concurrent Fishery; and that a State of Inhabitancy, unrestrained by any Form or Constitution of Civil Government, had operated to the total Subversion of that Policy upon which the Fisheries dependent on that Island were originally established: And to defeat those great National Advantages which were the Objects of the Regulations of the Statute of 10th and 11th of William the Third, our Predecessors in Office thought it their Duty humbly to lay before Your Majesty, in their Representations of the 11th of December 1764, and the 29th of April 1765, a full State of these several Matters, to the End that Your Majesty might, with the Advice of Your Council, take such Measures, and establish such Regulations, as should be found necessary and expedient in a Case of so great Importance to the Interest of this Nation, and which appeared to require Attention.

In consequence of this Proceeding, it becomes a necessary and indispensable Duty in us most humbly to lay before Your Majesty such further Reports as have been made to us by Your Majesty's Governor of Newfoundland, of the present State of that Island, and of the several Occurrences during the last Fishing Season, so far as they relate to those Parts of his Duty on which he was directed to correspond with this Board.

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