

*thousand* schooners of from seventy to one hundred tons, are annually sent into the Gulph; of these about fourteen hundred make their fish in the Straits of Belleisle, and on the Labrador shore, from whence, what is intended for the European market, is shipped off, without being sent to their own ports: about six hundred American schooners make their fares on the north side of the Island, and often make two trips in a season, returning to their own ports with full cargoes, where their fish are dried; the number of men employed in this fishery is estimated at between fifteen and twenty thousand, and the profits on it are known to be very great. To see such a source of wealth and naval power on our own coast, and in our very harbours, abandoned to the Americans, is much to be regretted and would be distressing were it not that the means of re-occupying the whole with such advantages as must soon preclude all competition, is afforded in the cultivation and settlement of Prince Edward Island.