

number in any profession are too numerous, the profits are so far reduced, that those only who are most advantageously situated can carry it on; therefore, the other competitors are necessitated to desist and seek employment elsewhere. The New Englanders are certainly as well, if not better situated than England or Ireland, to carry on this fishery with their own people, consequently, their competition must more and more reduce the number of fishermen sent out from this country, till in the end, from the impossibility of making wages and paying expences, we should send out none at all. Before the restraining act took place, the middle provinces* had, to the decrease of the numbers employed by us, by degrees come to enjoy of themselves almost the principal share of the fishery—Thus it follows, that if the greatest degree of population possible should be maintained in the imperial-state, the Colonies should by no means be allowed to interfere on the banks of Newfoundland, nor indeed from the north of Cape Sable, to the entrance of Davis's Straits.

The produce of the fisheries of Labrador, we have already shewn to be upwards of £.49,000, and that it is carried on solely by the Americans, who employ there 120 sail of vessels. Now supposing these vessels at 10 men each, there is employed on the coast of

* New England alone employed more ships in the fishery, than both Great Britain and Ireland.

Labrador