

PART I.

First Act of Navigation—Petition of the Commons on the Carrying Trade—An Easement in Duty for English Ships—Stat. 5. Eliz.—The Fisheries encouraged—The Coasting Trade—The Plantation Trade—Act of Navigation 1651.

THE first provision made by parliament that can be classed under the denomination of a *Navigation-Act*, is stat. 42. Ed. 3. c. 8. which enacted, that all ships of England and Gascoigne which came into Gascoigne, should be first freighted to bring wines into England before all other. But this preference (such as it is) being enjoyed in common with the people of Gascony, who were then the king's subjects equally with the English; and the English being actually restrained by another part of the act from going to Gascony to buy wines, which were to be brought only by the Gascons and other Aliens, this has not been considered sufficiently favourable to English shipping to be ranked among the Acts of Navigation.

PART I.

42 ED. III. TO
A. D. 1651.

THAT