

nufactories by employing many persons, who are thereby enabled to consume the produce, and is of considerable moment in point of trade and commerce.

Several hundred sail of vessels are usually laden here during the fishing season, when it is computed, that ten thousand persons assemble from various parts of the globe, many of whom are prevented staying the winter from the extreme severity of the climate, the snow being on the ground for months without a change. The last winter is said to have been very trying; money could not procure the necessaries of life, and the lower class of people were in a state of starvation. The snow was frequently over the roofs of the cottages, and the inhabitants were absolutely dug out, to save them from suffocation. During these heavy drifts, the slays, or sledges, which they have, drawn by horses, were useless, and