

Room, and not a hired One, or that is held and possessed as private Property.

6th, Whereas by sundry unlawful Practices of Inhabitants destroying the Stages, Flakes, and other Conveniencies belonging to the Ship Fishers, during the Absence of the Ships in the Winter, the Ship Fishers have been ruined, and excluded from the Fishery, and those Inhabitants become unlawful Possessors of all the old and best Fishing Conveniencies, which by Law ought to be preserved for the Use of Ship Fishers only—let it be ordered, that in all Harbours where there are, or hereafter may be, any Ships Rooms, the same shall be inviolably preserved for the Use of Ship Fishers only; and if any Damage is done to any such Stages, or other Conveniencies thereto belonging, in the Winter during the Absence of the Ships, all the Inhabitants of that Place shall be obliged to make good such Damages immediately on the Arrival of the Fishing Ships; and the Fishing Admirals of the respective Harbours to be authorized by Law to compel such Inhabitants to restore such Ships Rooms, and the Fishing Conveniencies thereto belonging, into the same State and Condition in which they were left the preceding Season; and till such Damages are so repaired, the Masters of such Fishing Ships to be authorized to occupy and use any Stage or Room possessed by any Inhabitant in that Harbour, that he pleases to make Choice of; for the Ship Fishers, according to the above-mentioned Act, must never be disappointed of their Voyage, where there is or ever was any lawful Ships Rooms.

7th, All Admirals transmitting to the Governor or Commodore a Report of the State of their Fisheries in their respective Harbours, as directed by the Act of the 10th and 11th of William III. on producing from the Governor or the Captain of any of the King's Ships a Certificate of the Receipt thereof, such Admirals Ships should be entitled to some Privilege or Reward; printed Forms for such Reports to be delivered gratis to every Fishing Ship when she clears out at the Custom House in Britain.

No Laws, Rules, or Regulations that ever have or can be made for such People as the present Inhabitant Fishers of Newfoundland are, will ever be of any Use, without Pains and Penalties being annexed to Offences against those Laws.

The encouraging and obliging the Men to return Yearly to England.

1st, The greatest Part of the Fishermen now residing in the Country, called Planters or Master Boat Keepers, are a Kind of Prisoners or Slaves to their Suppliers, who, to prevent their Return, threaten them with a Gaol for Debt; which Debts have been contracted by shameful Impositions and Oppressions, for the Purpose of keeping them there. Those Creditors know it is not possible ever to be paid those Debts in Newfoundland; nor are those Debts, if they were to be strictly examined into, either lawful or just. Suppose it should be enacted, that all such Fishermen so in Debt at
this