

but I think that by means of proper regulations its present condition would be much improved?

Q. What regulations do you suggest?

A. The following, according to the several kinds of fisheries, which are principally those of Herring, Cod and Salmon. First—The Herring Fishery. The practice of manuring land, either with Herring or its spawn, and the latter more particularly, should be strictly prohibited, as much more destructive than the former. Such a prohibition would, moreover, have an effect favourable to Agriculture, by proscribing a manure hurtful to the soil, and making it necessary to recur to some preferable substance. Secondly—The Cod Fishery. Considering the nature of the principal causes of its decay, I think a reestablishment very difficult. These causes are reducible to two: the first and most constant is the bad practice of throwing into the sea what is cut out of that fish previous to salting it; the second, is the too great number of American fishermen, who have spread over our fishing grounds as far as the Gulph, since the last Treaty of Peace with the United-States more especially. Yet I do not consider their number, however excessive, as so detrimental to the fishery as the unrestrained practice, in which they use no discretion, of throwing into the sea the offal of the fish they take, for on this subject they are under no regulation, or if they have any they are not much observed. These interested fishermen, excited by the hope of immediate profit, and for the most part little attentive to the means of maintaining an abundant supply of that fish, on grounds from which the first difference between the two Nations may expel them, conduct themselves in a manner which the most strict and best observed regulations on the part of our fishermen can but very feebly remedy, for they are 60 or 80 to one of ours; and they follow the fish as far as the Orphan Banks, to the great injury and annoyance of our fishermen. What then would avail to us the regulation of our little fisheries within the Gulph, if at the Strait of *Belle Isle*, and that between Cape Ray and Cape North, the fish be stopped and destroyed, as has been done, particularly this year. These two Straits are the only entrances they have to the Gulph; the mode would therefore be, an understanding between the British Government and that of the United States, for submitting the fishermen of both nations to efficacious regulations, otherwise our Cod Fisheries in the Gulph will be in the same situation in which the Salmon Fisheries in the District of Gaspé now are. Thirdly—The Salmon Fishery. The Regulations for the reestablishment of that Fishery would be more easy, although more complicated than those for that of Cod Fish.

Q. Have you seen the proposed Fishery Bill, and have you any and what remarks to make which might tend to its improvement?

A. Yes; and my remarks are these: This Bill which, however, I have only read cursorily, appears to me very superior to that which