

East Side of that Island, *Philip's Bay*, and other Parts of the Continent of *Labrador*, and *Gaspée* in *Nova Scotia*; in these several Places they have no settled Habitations, but having erected Houses, and cleared small Places for Gardens, they raise Roots and Herbage sufficient to serve them yearly for Soup and Salad, until their Return to *France*: It appears then, that they improve several Ports more commodious for their Purpose than any on *Cape Breton*; 'tis true they have no Right to fish on the Coasts of *Nova Scotia*, but their Claim on the North Side of the Gulf of *St. Lawrence* has never been contested, and if it is in the Power of this Nation to exclude them totally from the *American* Fishery, or from our own only, the Possession of *Cape Breton* cannot turn the Scale so much in their Favour as has been apprehended: In short, its greatest Conveniency to *France* consists in its being a middle Port between *Canada* and the *French* Dominions in general, in *Europe* and the *West Indies*, and could any proper Means be devised to prevent their future Intercourse with the *British Colonies* from whence they are supplied with Stores and Provisions in return for the Produce of a *contraband Trade*, the Inhabitants would be under a Necessity of returning annually to *France* in their Fish-Ships, or spending a miserable Winter with little else than Salt-Fish for their Subsistence.

In order to rival the *French* in the *Cod-Fishery*, 'tis necessary to confine them to the Limits stipulated by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, which will exclude them from all the Banks of *Nova Scotia*, and it does not appear by that, or any other Treaty, that they have a Right to fish to the Southward of *Cape Bonavista*

F

on

---

*eighteen* Men; he took another Ship at *St. Julian's* of *sixteen* Guns and *ninety* Men, *ten* Ships on the Banks with *three hundred and six* Men, retook a *British* Ship, burnt all the *French* Houses, and Stores in *seven* different Harbours, with *four* Vessels, and upwards of *eight hundred* fishing Shallops, all within a Month.