

most of it in St. John's, from 1745 to 1759, published an account, in 1765, of the fisheries of the Colony during his sojourn. He was a very acute observer, and in his calculations, divided the fishery products into four portions. His apportionment to the northward included Bonavista, Trinity, Catalina and the coves and creeks pertaining thereto.

Bonavista must have been exceedingly well off at that time, even allowing that the business men across the water were doing very well out of their adventures. The figures given below are the figures of Lieut. Williams. They specify that in 1754, when the resident population of the Colony was 5,260, the cod-fishery was valued at \$5,160,000, and the oil at \$464,400. Of the great salmon fishery no estimate is made. Mr. George Skeffington, in 1723, probably the same gentleman that capitulated and paid the ransom, secured the sole right by charter, from the law officers of the crown, to carry on the salmon fishery for 21 years in Freshwater Bay, Ragged Harbour, Gander Bay and Dog Creek. Previously he had a large salmon fishery extending from Cape Bonavista to Cape John. By 1800 the population of Newfoundland had increased to 20,380. In the next forty years it had multiplied more than six times (124,288). In the following fifty years, by its birth rate chiefly, for the English "youngsters" had ceased to come to the fisheries, the population doubled, making 240,000, exclusive of Labrador. Bonavista has held its own in the march of time. Last census showed the town to have the second largest outport population with 3,911, Harbour Grace leading with 4,279, and Carbonear third place with 3,540, or 371 less than Bonavista. Villa Verde and Lancaster are not counted, but really are a part of Bonavista, ecclesiastically, commercially, and otherwise. If we count these the population is over 4,000. But Bonavista has always been handicapped with the disadvantage of a poor harbour, and while second in point of population, is much behind some smaller towns in regard to economic conditions. The lack of a safe harbour, has ever been a menace to any advancement along the lines of shipping, and the fishery has always been prosecuted with small open boats and fishing skiffs, which could be easily pulled up upon the beach in the time of storm. When a fierce