

the great banks of Newfoundland or in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or elsewhere in the open sea ; but she denied their right to fish in British waters, or to land on British territory for the purpose of drying or curing their fish. But what she claimed was, that United States' fishermen should not fish within three leagues of "all the coast belonging to Great Britain, as well as shores of the islands situate in the Gulf of St. Lawrence," and within fifteen leagues of "the coast of the Island of Cape Breton."

To this, however, the Americans refused to consent, Mr. Adams declaring that "he never would put his hand to any Treaty if the restraint regarding the three leagues and the fifteen leagues were not dispensed with, as well as that of denying his countrymen the privilege of drying fish on the unsettled parts of Nova Scotia.

Mr. Oswald ;
November 30, 1782.

After a great deal of discussion, a compromise was arrived at, and it was agreed that United States' fishermen should be at liberty to fish on such part of the coast of Newfoundland as British fishermen could use, but not to dry or cure their fish on that island ; and they were also to be allowed to fish on the coasts, bays, and creeks of other British possessions in North America, and to dry and cure their fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbours, and creeks of Nova Scotia, Magdalen Islands, and Labrador, so long as they should remain unsettled ; but as soon as any of them became settled, the United States' fishermen were not to be allowed to use them without the previous permission of the inhabitants and proprietors of the ground.

The IIIrd Article of the Treaty of Paris of the 3rd of September, 1783, is in these terms :—

"It is agreed that the people of the United States shall continue to enjoy unmolested the right to take fish of every kind on the Grand Bank and on all other banks of Newfoundland, also in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and at all other places in the sea where the inhabitants of both countries used at any time heretofore to fish, and also that the inhabitants of the United States shall have liberty to take fish of every kind on such part of the coast of Newfoundland as British fishermen shall use (but not to dry or cure the same on that island) and also on the coasts, bays, and creeks of all other of Her Britannic Majesty's dominions in America ; and that the