

the land. I understand that the Dutch bleed each herring, use the best quality of salt, and take the greatest care in their manipulation. If they had the rich herring of Labrador, it would be worth the gold mines of Australia to them. A movement was made to procure instructors in curing, some time ago, but I know not from what cause it failed. I believe the Dutch prohibit their herring curers from engaging with foreigners, but Scotland could furnish us with many nearly as good, and thus hundreds of thousands of pounds would be yearly gained to the country, and the gifts of Providence would not be abused. One great step for the preservation of the herring on the western shore, has been made by passing Mr. Benning's bill. I have been informed, on good authority, that the waste of herring for supplying bait to the French was awful, and that one year 20,000 barrels, for which there was no sale, were cast back into the sea. No fishery then, I think, requires the watchful care of government more than this, and if properly preserved and managed, it will be nearly as great a source of wealth as the cod fishery, and more secure than the seal fishery. The whale fishery was formerly prosecuted to some extent in the Bay of Despair, but the whale, as we know, is easily exterminated, and though the fishery is yet followed to some extent, it is one we can not expect to continue—still it will be always more or less an addition to our resources. Allow me to say a few words of my experience of the people: I have found them in all parts of the island, hospitable, generous, and obliging; Catholics and Protestants live together in the greatest harmony, and it is only in *print* we find any thing except on extraordinary occasions, like disunion among them.