

“ to that dissolute Way of Life above stated, and remain under a slavish
 “ Servitude to the Merchant Suppliers, Store Keepers, and Boat Keepers,
 “ whose Object it is, by every Method, to induce and compel such as come
 “ out Passengers from England and Ireland to remain in the Country,
 “ exercising every scandalous Act to defraud and cheat those Servants,
 “ whom they cannot persuade to run out their Wages in Truck or
 “ Liquors:

“ That all the Ship Rooms and other Conveniencies used for the Fishery
 “ in those Parts of the Island which were the ancient Possession of the
 “ Crown of Great Britain, are now become altogether the private Property
 “ of Merchants, Store Keepers, and Boat Keepers, who reside constantly in
 “ the Island, by which Means the Ship Fishery is entirely dropped, except as
 “ to a few Bankers, and with it the Observance of the Rules and Regula-
 “ tions of the Act of King William, all of which are, as to any good Pur-
 “ pose, laid aside; the End for which the Admirals in the several Harbours
 “ were instituted, forgot; their Duty neglected, and their Authority
 “ despised; and the Act never appealed to, but to support Claims of Pro-
 “ perty to Land, as unwarrantable as they are inconsistent with the Princi-
 “ ples it adopts:

“ That there being no proper Establishment in the Island for the Execu-
 “ tion of the Laws of Trade, there is an Opening for the most illicit
 “ Practices in this Respect, more especially with the French at Miquelon
 “ and St. Peter's, who endeavour by every Artifice and Temptation to intro-
 “ duce a Commerce with Your Majesty's Subjects, which for Want of such
 “ Establishments will necessarily have its full Scope and Effect during the
 “ Absence of Your Majesty's Ships of War: And lastly,

“ That there is Reason to fear, that many of the Ships employed in the
 “ Newfoundland Fishery, as British Ships, are in Part owned and belong
 “ to Spaniards, or to the Subjects of other Foreign States.”

Such, may it please Your Majesty, is the melancholy Picture which Your Majesty's Governor draws of the State of the Island of Newfoundland; and we fear, in most Parts of it, bears but too just a Resemblance; this alone therefore, we trust, is sufficient to evince the Necessity of an immediate Attention to so important a Part of the National Interest. But when combined with the Considerations suggested by us to Your Majesty, in this and the Two former Representations we have had the Honour to lay before Your Majesty upon this Subject, will render the Neglect of it as disgraceful to the Policy, as it would be disadvantageous to the Commerce of Your Majesty's Kingdoms.

The Principles upon which the Newfoundland Fishery was established and carried on, under the Great Western Charter, and which the Act of King William attempts to restore, are, as far as they extend, so true in Policy, and the Arguments in Support of that Plan are so plausible, that it should seem at the First View of it to admit of no Competition; since by confining the Fishery to Ships from Great Britain, and requiring those Ships to take out and bring back a certain Number of Green Men every Year, it not only supposes a large Increase of Seamen, but also offers to ensure to these Kingdoms the exclusive and immediate Supply of every

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