

there are any Custom House Officers in Fortune Bay? he said, Yes.—And being asked, Who are they? he said, Charles Cramer acts both as Deputy Collector and Comptroller.—And being asked, What Inconvenience would arise, if the Business of the Customs was carried on by a Naval Officer now, as formerly, in Fortune Bay? he said, Before the Deputy was appointed, he, many Years, did the Business to the Satisfaction of the Admirals and Surrogates, as a Naval Officer; and the Naval Officer could as well do it now.—And being asked, Whether any Inconveniencies have arisen to the Trade in Fortune Bay from the Appointment of the Custom House? he said, He himself, has been very materially injured by the Detention he has met with before the Entries could be made; he thinks the Trade is in a declining State.—And being asked, To what did he attribute that Decline? he said, He believed it was owing to the great Number of Adventurers that are got into the Trade, and that it is gone past its Climax.—And being asked, Whether there is any Thing else that he attributed to the Decline of the Trade? he said, He knew of none, but the Inconveniencies the Trade labours under from the Act of the 15th of George the Third.—And being asked, Whether he thought that the Custom House operates as an unnecessary Inconvenience to the Trade? he said, His Trade has suffered by the Delays he has met with.—And being asked, Whether he thought that the Fees of the Custom House are too large? he said, They are increasing; it has not as yet, indeed, been a very great Object; they pay, upon an Average, including Certificates, &c. about £. 6 a Vessel.—And being asked, whether he did not think that above £. 3,000 a Year is an Object to the Fishery? he said, It certainly is an Object to the Fishery, but not equal to the Detention of the Ships.—And being asked, How is the Naval Officers Return of Shipping made up? he said, The Accounts of Imports and Exports are transmitted every Year, in October, to the Chief Naval Officer at St. John's.—And being asked, How is the Number of Ships taken? he said, From the Register kept of their Arrivals by the Naval Officer.—And being asked, What does the Detention of the Ships arise from? he said, From the Negligence of the Deputy.—And being asked, Would there be a Detention, if he was not negligent? he said, Very trivial.—And being asked, Whether any Complaints had been made of his Conduct to the Collector at St. John's? he said, Yes; and he supposes he gave him a Check, for last Year he behaved better.—And being asked, Whether the Deputy acted in any other Capacity than Collector? he said, Yes, as a Surgeon; he was a Justice of the Peace till Captain Harvey enquired into his Conduct, and requested him to write in his Resignation, which was accepted: