

the Merchants on the other, respecting the Trade and Government of the Island. I have delivered them in their own Words, and the Committee will decide between them.

Extracts from
Correspondence after
1728.

In the year 1728, a Governor was appointed, with Authority to issue Commissions of the Peace; I shall now lay before the Committee such Information as will shew the Determination of the Western Merchants to resist any Regulation that had for its Object to put an End to the Anarchy, Injustice, and Oppression which prevailed while there was no Policy or Government for Newfoundland, but such as was provided by Stat. 10th and 11th Will. III.

[N. B. Here followed more Extracts, which for the above Reason are now omitted.]

I shall not trouble the Committee with any more Information of this Sort; I have perhaps already been too long upon this Head, but it seemed to me to be a very material Part of the Enquiry to ascertain what was the real History of this Stat. 10th and 11th Will. III. upon which the Western Merchants bestow so much Praise. To what I have said, I shall only add an Opinion given by the Board of Trade on this Statute in the Year 1765, and I shall submit what they say upon that Occasion to the Consideration of the Committee.

“ They conceived it highly exceptionable
“ in almost every Light in which it could be
“ viewed.