

Indies they were not admitted, and few went to France. The principal markets were within the Baltic sea, as will appear by the following

*Account of exports of herrings from Gottenburg.*

In the years	1775	1776	1777	1779	1780	1781
To Cork and other ports in Ireland	25,836	56,400	19,267	7,313	13,243	
Madeira, and the West-Indies (chiefly St. Eustathias)	6,278	7,437	5,826	20,849	7,281	2,700
France and the Mediterranean	300	4,267	5,413	8,369	12,615	24,225
Different ports in the Baltic not subject to Sweden	41,552	37,091	64,465	58,069	44,747	80,474
Different ports of Sweden	20,627	23,272	37,075	40,485	28,778	29,250
Totals of barrels measuring 32 gallons*, and containing about 900 herrings each	94,593	128,467	132,016	135,085	106,664	136,649

So superabundant was the capture of herrings on the Swedish shore, that it exceeded every possible demand for them; and they were obliged to boil many millions of them for oil, one barrel of which was obtained from eighteen barrels of herrings. In the year 1781 they exported to the Baltic, Holland, and Spain, 14,542 barrels of herring oil of about 42 gallons each; and from 1,000 to 1,500 barrels were annually consumed in the country. But the herring oil is greatly inferior to whale oil, or even liver oil, and is liable to congeal in cold weather to a consistence something like honey †.

The herring fishery of Holland, once so pre-eminently great and flourishing, employed now only 200 busses of about 26 tons burthen.

The French for some few years past had caught some herrings of an indifferent quality upon their own coast, part of which they dried for the Mediterranean trade, but the greatest part was shipped for their West-India settlements.

The war was of some service to the city of Dantzic in reviving its commerce. In the course of this year 549 vessels sailed from that port, many of which were employed to great advantage in carrying timber for the use of the British navy; and 502 arrived, not one of which was under Dutch colours, though many of them were, probably, Dutch property.

\* So the size of the barrel is stated by the author of this information. But from a number of other authorities the Swedish barrels appear to contain *thirty-six* gallons.

† The oil-makers used to throw the refuse of the herrings into the sea, which practice, being thought prejudicial to the fishery and to naviga-

tion, was prohibited by an edict from the king. The oil-makers remonstrated, and were permitted to make some experiments, which, as they alleged, proved, that the fishery was improved by throwing the refuse into the sea. Strange, that it should not occur to them, how valuable so vast a quantity of animal substance must be as a manure!