

Writing with every such Seaman or Fisherman, declaring what Wages such Seamen or Fisherman is to have, and the Time for which he shall serve, which shall be signed by both Parties; wherein it shall be stipulated (amongst other Things) that the Person so hiring or employing shall be at Liberty to reserve, retain, and deduct, and he is hereby authorised, required, and directed, to reserve, retain, and deduct out of the Wages of every Person so hired or employed, a Sum of Money equal to the then current Price of a Man's Passage Home, not exceeding Forty Shillings for each Man, which Money such Hirer or Employer shall, at the End of each Fishing Season, or at the Expiration of the covenanted Time of Service of such Seaman or Fisherman, pay, or cause to be paid, to the Master of a Passage or other Ship, who shall undertake or agree to carry such Seaman or Fisherman Home to the Country whereto he belongs, and shall also convey such Seaman or Fisherman to and on Board such Passage or other Ship, taking the Master's Receipt for the Passage-money, which Receipt he shall immediately thereupon deliver to such Seaman or Fisherman."

ABSTRACT.

" And be it further enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That no Hirer or Employer of any such Seaman or Fisherman shall pay or advance, or cause to be paid or advanced, to such Seaman or Fisherman, in Money, Liquor, and Goods, or either of them, during the Time he shall be in his Service, more than One-half of the Wages which shall at any Time be due to him; but such Hirer or Employer shall, and is hereby required and directed, immediately at or upon the Expiration of every such Man's covenanted Time of Service, to pay either in Money, or in good Bills of Exchange, payable either in *Great Britain or Ireland*, or in the Country to which such Seaman or Fisherman belongs, the

REMARK V.

This clause, which appears to have proceeded from the purest benevolence, would have had more merit, if it had been dictated by candor and a spirit of justice, instead of prejudice. Sir Hugh Palliser regarded every merchant concerned in the Newfoundland fishery as a consummate knave; and, to the illiberality of this idea, he added the indecency of avowing it. This prejudice he pretended to justify by the iniquity of some individuals, who, in their extreme eagerness to improve their fortunes, manifested a total contempt of all decency and honesty. Their rapine and injustice