

BILL

For the better regulation of the Fisheries in the Inferior District of Gaspé, and in the Counties of Cornwallis and Northumberland.

WHEREAS the Fisheries in the Inferior District of Gaspé, and in the Counties of Cornwallis and Northumberland, are of great importance to the Trade of this Province: Be it therefore enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Lower Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great-Britain, intituled, "An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "*An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec, in North America;*" and to make "further provision for the Government of the said Province;" and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that all and every His Majesty's Subjects, shall peaceably have, use and enjoy the freedom of taking bait, and of fishing in any River, Creek, Harbour or Road, with liberty to go on shore on any part within the Inferior District of Gaspé, between Cape Chat, on the South side of the River St. Lawrence, and the first Rapid of the River Ristigouche, within the said District, and on the Island of Bonaventure, opposite to Percé, for the purpose of salting, curing and drying their Fish, to cut wood for making and repairing stages, flakes, hurdles, cook-rooms, and other purposes necessary for preparing their Fish for exportation, or that may be useful to their fishing trade, without hindrance, interruption, denial or molestation from any person or persons whomsoever. Provided such river, creek, harbour or road, or the land upon which such wood may be cut, doth not lie within the bounds of any private property, by grant from His Majesty, or other title proceeding from such grant by His Majesty, or by grant made prior to the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty, or held under and by virtue of any Location Certificate, or Title derived from any such Location Certificate, or in virtue of any title derived under any Act of the Legislature of this Province.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the Master or Commander of any Vessel fitted out from the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland, or the Dominions thereunto belonging, may take possession of so much of the unoccupied beach, within the aforesaid Inferior District of Gaspé, as may be necessary for curing his Fish, and preparing it for exportation; and to retain and enjoy the same, so long as he shall not leave it unoccupied, for the space of twelve Calendar months; in which case it shall be lawful for any other person or persons to take possession thereof, in part or the whole, for the same purposes, and on the same condition. Provided that such beach be not private property by grant from His Majesty, or other title proceeding therefrom, or by grant prior to the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty, or held under and by virtue of any Location Certificate or Title derived therefrom, or in virtue of any Title derived under any Act of the Legislature