

B I L L .

An Act relating to the Fisheries on the Labrador and North Shore of the Gulph of St. Lawrence.

WHEREAS the Whale, Seal, Cod, Mackarel, Herring, and Preamble.
 other Fisheries in the Gulph of St. Lawrence are of great importance to Her Majesty's subjects in this Province, several of whom concerned in those Fisheries have been of late
 5 years by strong hand prevented by persons residing on or frequenting the Labrador or North Shore of the said Gulph, from making on the coasts thereof and islands contiguous thereto, although uninhabited and waste, the temporary buildings, Try Houses, Sheds, Stages, Flakes, and other erections necessary to
 10 the carrying on of those Fisheries, some of such persons pretending that as proprietors or lessees of the Seignories or occupants of the principal posts or places established on the said coasts for the purpose of trading with the native Indians, they have an exclusive right to the fishing, hunting, and trade with the Indians on
 15 the said coast, and in some instances have under pretext thereof violently dispossessed persons of the temporary erections they had constructed in waste and unoccupied parts of the said coast and islands, as trespassers thereupon, but who nevertheless, in the lawful pursuit of such Fisheries, have as British Subjects a right
 20 to land and construct such erections on the waste and unoccupied parts of the coast, not disturbing nor interfering with the previous occupants, and are entitled as pursuing an important branch of public and national industry, to every facility which, without injury to planters and those permanently settled on the coast,
 25 the various localities on the said coast and islands contiguous to the same can afford, and it therefore is expedient to declare and enact as hereinafter it is done; Be it therefore declared and enacted, &c.,

And it is hereby declared and enacted by the authority of the H.M. Subjects
 30 same, that all and every Her Majesty's Subjects carrying on or concerned in the Whale, Seal, Cod, and other Fisheries in the Gulph of St. Lawrence shall peaceably have, use and enjoy the freedom of taking bait and of fishing in any and every River, Creek, Harbour, or Road, with liberty to go on shore on any part carrying on the Fisheries shall have the right of taking bait, fishing, etc., on the Labrador or