

ABSTRACT.

thereof, or by Persons employed by the Master or Owner of such Ship or Vessel, or of some other Ship or Vessel qualified as aforesaid."

REMARK.

cavilling, but merely to point out the great danger to be apprehended to morals and society in having recourse to oaths upon every occasion.

ABSTRACT.

" And whereas, in several Acts, passed in the Eleventh and Twelfth Years of *William* the Third, the Eighth of *George* the First, and Second and Twelfth of *George* the Second, Provision has been made to prevent Seamen and Mariners in the Merchant Service being wilfully left beyond Sea, and to secure and provide for their return Home to such Part of His Majesty's Dominions whereto they belong : And whereas, for want of such Provisions being extended to Seamen and Fishermen going out as Passengers to *Newfoundland*, and hired and employed in the Fisheries carried on there, great Numbers of them remain in that Country at the End of every Fishing Season, who would otherwise return Home, and some of them have frequently turned Robbers and Pirates ; for Remedy of which Evil, be it enacted, by the Authority aforesaid,

That no Person or Persons whatsoever shall, from and after the First Day of *January*, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, employ, or cause to be employed, at *Newfoundland*, for the Purpose of carrying on the Fishery there, any Seaman or Fisherman going as Passengers, or any Seaman or Fisherman hired there, without first entering into an Agreement or Contract in

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This clause, which was certainly well designed, has become almost ineffectual by the great advance of seamen's wages and of provisions, which will not enable the owners of ships and vessels to take passengers home at the rate proposed by parliament. — Indeed it is evident that they would lose if they did ; and as the clause does not compel them, they have refused the forty shillings ; the consequence of which will be, that many of the fishermen and seamen must remain in *Newfoundland*, who would (agreeably to the intention of the legislature) have returned to Great Britain or Ireland.

Writing