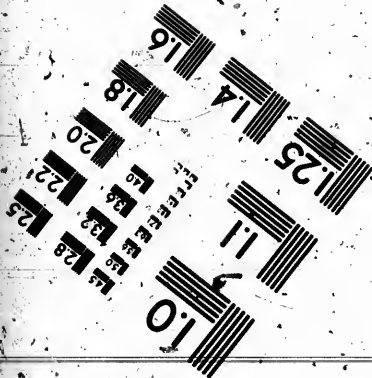
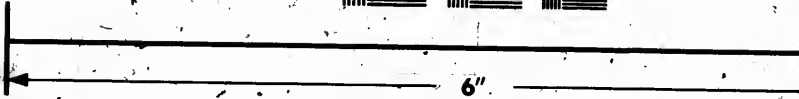
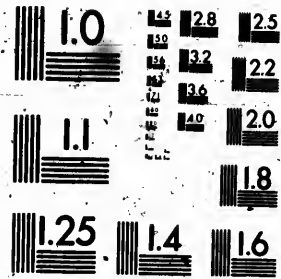


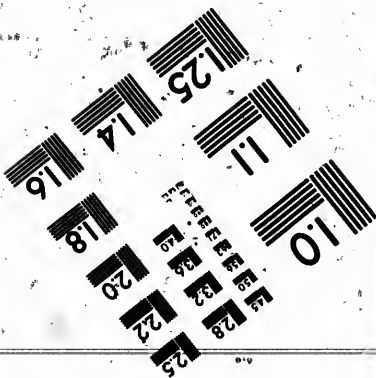
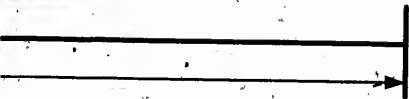
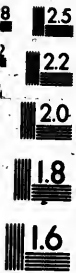
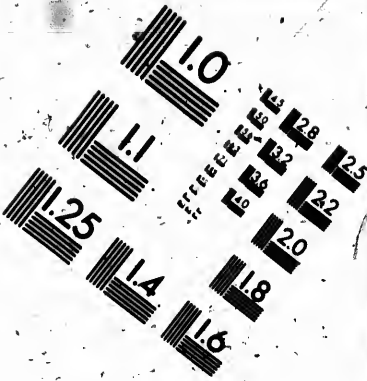
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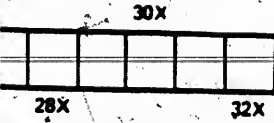
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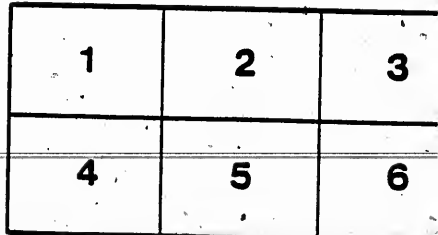
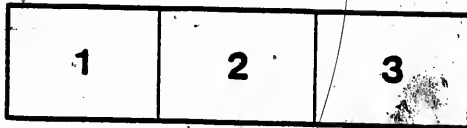
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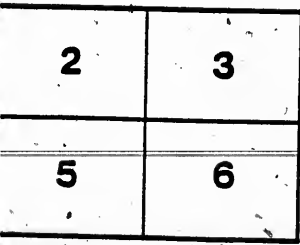
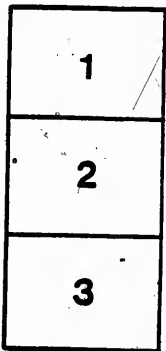
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LONDON'S BLAME,
If not its SHAME:

Jenner, Thomas

Manifested by the great neglect of the Fishery, which affordeth to our Neighbor Nation yearly, the Revenue of many Millions, which they take up at our Doors, whilst with the Suggard, we foide our hands in our bosoms and will not stretch them forth to our mouths.

Or the inestimable riches of the British Seas, which do yeild a monthly Harvest of several Fish in their season, which being brought into the Land, would make Flesh at a low rate, increaseth Shipping, Mariners, Trade, and public Revenue, whercof this Book doth give a plentiful account, the which we may in some measure thus accomplish:

Let every Ward in London build a List, and Money to do it may be thus-raised.

If every Ward would pay a three months Assessment which they pay to the L. Generals Army, at the rate of 9000*l.* per mensm, ready down, or if the poorer sort think it too much for them, if the richer will raise it, they may have the benefit of their Stock returned every half year, and one Merchant may be found in a Ward which may be the husband of that Bus for that year, and those 25. Merchants may be a Committee for the 25. Ships, for all Intents and purposes.

Which Ship would employ all the Poor in their Ward, for to beat Hemp, to spin it, to make Twine, and Nets, and Cordage for the setting of Her forth, and may be called by the Name of the Ward.

Dedicated by Thomas Jenner to the Corporation of the Poor, in the City of London, being a member thereof, and desires that this Treatise may put them upon a more vigorous acting for time to come, that the whole City and Nation seeing this good Work, may be provoked to propagate it in the whole Land.

Eccles. 9. 10. Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave where thou goest.

Printed for T. J. at the South Entrance of the Royal Exchange, 1651.

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The inestimable Riches and Commodities of the Brittish Seas.



The Coasts of Great Brittain do yeild such a continual Sea-harvest of grain to all those that with diligence do labour in the same, that no time or season in the year passeth away without some apparent means of profitable employments, especially to such as apply themselves to Fishing, which from the beginning of the year unto the latter end, continueth upon some one Port or other upon our Coasts, and therein such infinite shoals and multitudes of Fishes are offered to the takers, as may justly move admiration (not only to strangers, but) to those that are daily employed amongst them.

The Summer Fishing for Herrings begins about *Midsummer*, and lasteth some part of *August*; The Winter Fishing for Herrings lasteth from *September* to the midst of *November*, both which extend from *Boughness* in *Scotland*, to the *Thames* mouth.

The Fishing for Cod at *Alamby Wirkington* and *Whitehaven* neer the Coast of *Lancashire*, from *Easter* until *Whitsontide*.

The Fishing of *Hake* at *Haberdeny Aberswith*, and other places between *Wales* and *Ireland*, from *Whitsontide* to *S. James* tide.

The Fishing for Cod and *Ling* about *Padstow* within the

the Lands, and of *Severne* from *Christ-tide* to *Mid-lent*.

The Fishing for *Cod* on the West part of *Ireland*, and frequented by those of *Biscay Galicia* and *Portugal*, from the beginning of *April* until the latter end of *June*.

The Fishing for *Cod* and *Ling* on the North and North-west of *Ireland*, from *Christ-tide* until *September*.

The Fishing for *Cod* and *Ling* upon the North Coast of *Ireland*, from *Easter* until *Midsummer*.

The Fishing for *Pilchards* on the West Coast of *England*, from *S. James tide* unto *September*.

The Fishing for great *Scapling*, and many other sorts of Fish being about the *Islands* of *Scotland*, and in the several parts of the *Brittish Seas* all the year long.

In *September* not many yeers since, upon the Coasts of *Devonshire* near *Minigal*, five hundred Tun of Fish were taken in one day, and about the same time three thousand pounds worth of Fish in one day were taken at *St. Ives* in *Cornwal* by small Boats and other poor Provisions; five of our men with Boats and Cables adventuring in a calm to launch out among the *Holland Busses* not far from *Robin Hoods Bay*, returned to *Whisby* full fraught with Herrings, and reported that they saw some of those Busses take ten twenty, and four and twenty lasts of Herrings at a draught, and returned into their Country with forty, fifty, and an hundred lasts of Herrings in one Bus.

Our Fleet of *Colliers* not many yeers since returning from *Newcastle* laden with Coals, about the Well near *Flamboy head* and *Scarborough*, met with such multitude of *Cod*, *Ling*, and *Herrings*, that one amongst the rest with certain Ship-hooks and other Instruments, drew up as many *Cods* and *Ling* in a little space of time, as were sold well near for as much as her whole lading of Coals; and many hundred of Ships might have been there laden in two days and two nights. Out of which wonderful affluence and abundance of Fish swarming in our Seas, that we may the better perceive the infinite gain which Foreign Nations make,

make, I will especially insist upon the Fishing of the *Hollanders* in our Coasts, and thereby shew how they by this means principally have increased.

First, In Shipping.

Secondly, In Mariners.

Thirdly, In Trade,

Fourthly, In Towns and Fortifications.

Fifthly, In Power abroad.

Sixthly, In Publicque Revenue.

Seventhly, In Private Wealth.

Eighthly and lastly, In all manner of Provisions and Store of things necessary.

First, *Encrease in Shipping.*

BESIDES seven hundred *Strand* boats, four hundred *Evars*, and four hundred *Gallits*, *Drivers*, and *Tod-boats*, wherewith the *Hollanders* fish upon their own Coasts, every one of these employing another Ship to fetch Salt and carry the Fish into their Countries, being in all 3000. sail, maintaining and setting at work at least forty thousand persons, Fishers, Tradet-men, Women, and Children, they have an hundred *Dager-boats* one hundred and fifty Tuns a piece, or thereabouts, seven hundred *Pinks* and *Well-boats* from sixty to an hundred Tuns a piece, which altogether fish upon the Sea of *England* and *Scotland* for *Cod* and *Ling* only; and some each of these employeth another Vessel for providing of Salt and transporting their Fish, making in all sixteen hundred Ships, which maintain and employ at least four thousand persons of all sorts. For the *Herring* season they have at least sixteen hundred *Busses*, all of them fishing only upon our Coasts, from *Borghonouf* in *Scotland*, to the mouth of *Thames*; and every one of these maketh work for three other Ships that attend her; the one to bring in salt from Foreign parts, the other to carry the said salt and cask to the *Busses*, and to bring back the *Herrings*, and the third to transport

transport the said Fish into Foreign Countries; So that the total number of Ships and Busses plying the *Herring-Fare*, is six thousand four hundred, whereby every Busse one with another employeth forty Mariners and Fishers, within her own Bulk, and the rest ten a piece, which amounteth to one hundred and twelve thousand Fishers and Mariners; all which maintain double, if not treble so many Tradesmen, Women, and Children on land. Moreover they have four hundred Vessels at least that take Herring at *Farmouth*, and there sell them for ready money: So that the *Hollanders* (besides three hundred Ships before mentioned fishing upon their own Shores) have at least eight thousand and four hundred Ships, only maintained by the Seas of *Great Britain*; by the which means principally *Holland* being not so big as one of our Shires of *England*, containing not above twenty eight miles in length, and twenty three in breadth, have encreased the number of their Shipping, to at least ten thousand Sail, being more then are in *England*, *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, *Denmark*, *Poland*, *Sweden*, and *Russia*, and to this number they add every day, although their Country it self affords them neither materials, nor victuals, nor merchandise, to be accounted of, towards their setting forth.

Besides those of *Holland*, *Lubeck* hath seven hundred great Ships, *Hamborough* six hundred, *Enghden* fourteen hundred, whereunto add the Ships of *Breith*, *Biscay*, *Portugal*, *Spain*, and *France*, which for the most part fish in our Seas, and it will appear that ten thousand sail of Foreign Vessels, and above, are maintained and employed by fishing upon our Coast; so that in *Holland* there are built a thousand sail at the least to supply Ship-wracks, and augment their store, which as the prime and common Nursery is the chiefest means only to encrease their number.

Secondly

Secondly, *Encrease of Mariners.*

THe number of Ships fishing on our Coasts being (as afore-said) eight thousand four hundred, if we allow but twenty persons to every Ship one with another. the total of Mariners and Fishers, amounteth to an hundred sixty eight thousand, out of which number they daily furnish their longer voyages to all parts of the World; for by this they are not only enabled to brook the Seas, and to know the use of the Tackles and Compass, but are likewise instructed in Trade, in the principles of Navigation and Pilotage; insomuch as from home their greatest Navigators have had their education and breeding.

Thirdly, *Encrease of Trade.*

By reason of those multitude of Ships and Mariners, they have extended their Trade to all parts of the World, (exporting for the most part) in all their voyages of *Herring* and other Fish, for the maintenance of the same; in exchange whereof they return the several Commodities of other Countries.

From the Southern parts, as *France, Spain, and Portugal*, for our *Herrings*, they return, *Oyls, Wines, Prunes, Honey, Wools, Grain*, with store of *Coyns*; From the *Streights, Velvets, Sattins*, and all sorts of *Silks, Alloms, Carrants, Oyls*, and all Grocery ware, with much money.

From the *East Country*, for our *Herrings* and other *French and Italian* Commodities before returned, they bring home *Corn, Wax, Flax, Hemp, Pitch, Tar, Soap ashes, Iron, Copper, Steel, Clapboard, Waincot, Masts, Timber, Deal-boards, Polish Dollars*, and *Hungary Guilders*; From *Germany*, for *Herrings* and other salt Fish: *Iron, Steel, Glass, Millstones, Rhenish-Wines, Battery plate for Armor*, with other munitions, *Silk, Velvets, Rashes, Fustians, Lornes*,

and such like *Francfort* Commodities, with store of *Rix-dollars*.

From *Brabant* they return for the most part ready Coyne, with some *Tapstries*, *Says*, and *Hull-shops*; yea, some of our *Herrings* are carried as far as *Brasile*, and that which is more strange, and greatly to our shame, that four hundred Ships, which fish with our men at *Yarmouth*, within ken almost of Land, do vent our *Herrings* amongst us here in *England*, and make us pay for the Fish taken upon our Coasts ready money, wherewith they store their owne Country.

Fourthly, *Encrease of Towns and Forts.*

BY their large extent of Trade, they are become as it were Citizens of the whole World, whereby they have so enlarged their Towns, that most of them within these four hundred yeers, are full as great again as they were before; *Amsterdam*, *Leyden*, and *Middleburgh* having been lately twice enlarged, and their streets and buildings so fairly and orderly set forth, that for beauty and strength they may compare with any other in the World, upon which they bestow infinite sums of money, all originally flowing from the bounty of the Seas, from whence by their labour and industry, they derive the beginnings of all their Wealth and Greatness; and particularly for the *Havens* of the foresaid Towns, whereof some of them cost forty, fifty, or an hundred thousand pounds. Their Fortifications also both for number and strength, upon which they have bestowed infinite sums of money, may compare with any other whatsoever.

Fifty,

Fiftly, *Encrease of Power abroad.*

Such being then the number of their Ships and Mariners, and so great their Trade occasioned principally by their Fishing, they have not only strengthened and fortified themselves at home, to repel all foreign Invasions, as lately in the War between them and *Spain*, but have likewise stretched their Power into the East and West *Indies*; in many places whereof they are Lords of the Sea-coasts, and have likewise fortified upon the Main, where the King and people are at their devotion; and more then this, all neighbours, Princes, in their difference, by reason of their Power at Sea, are glad to have them of their part; so that next to the English they are become the most redoubted Nauon of any other whatsoever.

Sixtly, *Encrease of publique Revenue*

Moreover how mightily the publique Revenue and Customs of that State are encreased by their Fishing, may appear, in that about thirty yeers since, over and above the Customs of the merchandise, Excises, Licenses, Wastage, and Lastage, there was paid to the State for Custom of Herrings, and other salt Fish, above thirty thousand pounds in one year, besides the tenth Fish, and cask paid for wastage, which cometh at least to as much more, among the Hollanders only, whereunto the tenth of other Commodities being added, it amounteth to a far greater sum; we are likewise to know, that a great part of their Fish is sold in other Countries for ready money, for which they commonly export of the finest gold and Silver, and coming home recoyn it of a baser Alloy under their own stamp, which is no small means to augment their publique Treasure.

B

Seventhly

see the 8. page

20 number, &c.

Seventhly, Encrease of private Wealth.

AS touching their private Wealth, if we consider the abundant store of Herrings and other Fish by them taken, and the usual prices that they are sold for, as also the multitude of Tradesmen and Artificers that by reason of this their fishing are daily set on work, we must needs conclude, that the gain thereof, made by private men, must of necessity be exceeding great, as by observing the particulars following, it will plainly appear.

During the wars between the King of Spain and the *Hollanders*, before the last Truce, the *Dunkirks* by taking spoiling, and burning the *Busses* of *Holland*, and setting great ransom upon the Fishermen, enforced them to compound for great sums of money, that they might fish quietly one year; whereunto the next year after, the Fishermen among themselves were to pay a Dollar upon every last of Herrings towards the maintenance of certain Ships of War, to waite and secure them in their Fishing; by reason whereof, there was a Record kept of the several lasts of Herrings taken that year, and it appeareth thereby that in one half year there were taken three hundred thousand lasts of Herrings, which at twelve pound *per* last, amounteth to three millions and six hundred thousand pounds; and at sixteen twenty, and thirty pounds a last they are ordinarily sold, being transported into other Countries, it cometh at least to five millions of pounds.

Whereunto if we add the Herrings taken by other Nations, together with the *Cod*, *Ling*, *Hake*, and other fish taken by the *Hollanders* and other Neighbours upon the *Brittish* Coasts all the year long, the total will evidently arise to above ten millions of pounds.

This great Trade of Fishing employing so many men and
Ships

(9)

Ships at Sea, must necessarily maintain as great a number of
 Trades-men and Artizans on land; as Spinners and Heaps,
 winders, for Cables, Cordage, Xarn, Twine for Nets and
 Lines, Weavers to make Sail-clothes, Receivers, Packers,
 Tacklers, Dressers, and Couchers, to sort, and make the
 Herrings lawful Merchandise, Tanners to tan their Sails and
 nets, Coopers to make casks, Blocks and Bowl makers, for
 Ships, Keelmen, and Labourers, for carrying and removing
 of fish, Sawyers for planks, Carpenters, Ship-weights, Smiths,
 Car-men, Boatmen, Brewers, Bakers and a number of others,
 whereof a number are main'd persons, and unfit to be other-
 wise employed besides the maintenance of all their several
 wives, children, and families; and further, every man, or
 maid-servant, or orphan, having any poor stock, may venture
 the same in their fishing voyages, which affords them ordi-
 narily great increase, and is duly paid according to the pro-
 portion of their gain.

Eightly, *Encrease of Provision.*

And to conclude, it is manifest that *Holland* only afford-
 ing in it self some few *Hops, Madder, Butter, and (beef,*
 aboundeth notwithstanding by reason of this Art of fishing,
 in plentiful manner with all kind of provisions (as well for
 life) as in *Corn, Beef, Mutton, Hides, and (loth (as for luxury)*
 in *Wines, Silks, and Spices (and for defence) as Pitch, Tar,*
Cordage, Timber; All which they have, not only in com-
 petent proportion for their own use, but are likewise able,
 from their several Magazines, to supply to Neighbor Coun-
 tries. The premisses considered, it maketh much to the ig-
 nominy and shame of our English Nation that God and Na-
 ture offering us so rich a Treasure even to our own dores,
 we do notwithstanding neglect the benefit thereof, and by
 paying money to strangers for the fish of our own Seas, im-
 poverishing our selves to make them rich; insomuch that
 for want of Industry and care in this particular, two hundred

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and twenty five Fisher Towns are decayed, and reduced to extreme poverty; whereas on the contrary, by diligent endeavouring to make use of so great a blessing, we might in short time repair those decayed Towns of the Commonwealth, and add both Honour, and Strength, and Riches to this Nation; which how easily it may be done, will in some measure appear by some observations following.

By erecting two hundred and fifty Busses of reasonable strength and Bigness, there will be employment made for a thousand Ships, and for at least twenty thousand Fishermen and Mariners at Sea, and consequently for as many Tradesmen and Labourers at Land; The Herrings taken by those Busses, will afford the State twenty thousand pounds yearly Custom outward, and for Commodities returned inward, three hundred thousand pounds and above.

We have Timber sufficient, and at reasonable Rates growing in our Land for the building of Busses. Every shire affordeth men of hardy and able bodies fit for such employment, who now live poorly and idely at home.

We have victual in great plenty, sold at easie rates, without payment of Excise or Impost; our shores and harbours are neer the places where our fish doe haunt; for drying our Nets, Salting, and Packing our Fishing, and for succour in stress of weather; We may bring our fish to land, Salt, and Pack it, And from parts of this States Dominions, be at our Markets in *France, Spain, or Italy*, before the *Hollanders* can arive in *Holland*. We have means to transport our fish into some Southern Countries, where the *Hollanders* seldom or never come; and though we had as many Busses as the *Hollanders*, yet is there want for all, and more; for in the East and Northern Countries, and in many other places, Herrings are every days meat. Winter and Summer, as wel to draw on drink, as to satiffie hunger; And in most places the greatest part of the year they are scarce to be had; for presently after Michaelmas, the Sound & Rivers are frozen up, so that no Herrings can be Transported into several

King-

Kingdoms, Dukedomes and free Estates, until July which is for 30 weekes space together; so that when Lent comes, there are few to be bought for money.

Lastly, since by care and industry gain'd from the Fleming, doubles by the means we may grow as expert in the Art of fishing, and in time make it a Staple Comodity of our own.

But this we shall the better and sooner do, if we consider and endcavour to reform certaine wants and abuses which heretofore hath hindred us from effecting this good and great work, whereof these that follow are none of the least.

General liberty of eating of flesh contrary to the old custom, and the Statute Laws provided for observing fish days, from whence scarcity and dearth of flesh proceedeth; for where flesh is ordinarily spent, fish will not be bought, and want of sale decayeth all Trade; Gain being the Nurle of Industry; Want of Order and Direction in our Fishing, every man being left to himself, and permitted to fish as best liketh him: whereas among the *Hollanders*, two of the best experienc'd fishermen are appointed to guide the rest of the Fleet, and the others are bound to follow them, and to call their lines according to their discretion. The *Hollanders* and other Nations set forth with their *Busses* in *June*, to find the shoal of fish, and having found it, dwell amongst it till *November*; whereas we stay till the Herrings come home to the Road-steds, and sometimes suffer them to pass by, ere we look out, our Herring fishing continuing only seven weeks at the most, and theirs twenty.

The *Hollanders* *Busses* are great and strong, and able to brook foul weather, whereas our *Cobbles*, *Crayers*, and Boats being small and thin-tided, are easily swallowed by a rough sea, not daring to adventure far in fair weather, by reason of their weaknes, for fear of storms.

The *Hollanders* are industrious, and no sooner are discharged of their lading, but presently put forth for more, and seek for markets abroad as well as at home; whereas our *English* after they have been once at Sea, do commonly re-

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ver return again, until all the money taken for their fish be spent, and they in debt, seeking only to serve the next Market.

The Hollanders do retain the Merchants, who during the Herring season, do duly come to the places where the Busses arrive, and joyning together in several Companies, do presently agree for the lading of thirty or forty Busses at once, and so being discharged, they may speedily return to their former fishing: Whereas our Fishermen are uncertain of their Chap-men, and forced to spend much time, in putting off their Fish by parcels.

These, and other defects would carefully be taken into consideration and certain Orders made to make our Fishing prosperous and successful, especially considering the mischiefs the neglect hereof hath brought to the Nation in general, and to many good Towns and Corporations in particular, as by Authority even of Parliament it self in the Statute of 33. Hen: 8. is plainly testified: which I have briefly set down, to avoid the prolixity of the Original. Because the English Fishermen dwelling on the Sea Coast, do leave off their Trade of Fishing in our Seas, and went but the half Seas over, and thereupon the English did buy fish of *Pickards, Flemmings, Normans, and Zelanders*; by reason whereof, many incommodities did grow unto the Realm (*Viz.*) The Decay of the Wealth and Prosperity, as wel of the Cinque Ports and members of the same, as of other Coast Towns by the Sea side, which were built and inhabited by a great Multitude of people by reason of our using and exercising the Craft and feat of fishing. Secondly, The Decay of a great Number of Boats and Ships: And Thirdly, of many good Mariners, both able men in body by their diligent labours and continual exercise of fishing, and expert by reason thereof in the knowledge of the Sea Coasts, as wel within this land as in other parts beyond the Seas; It was therefore enacted, that no maner of persons, *English Demizon,*

or Strangers, at that time, or at any time after, dwelling in England, should buy any Fresh Fish of any Strangers in the said Ports of *Flaunders, Zeland, Picardie, France,* as upon the Sea between shore and shore &c.

This Act by mean Continuances, was continued from Parliament to Parliament, until the first of *Queen Mary,* and from thence to the end of the next Parliament, and then expired.

For Conclusion, saying by that which hath formerly been declared; it evidently appeareth, that the States or the Common-wealth of *England,* by immemorable perscription; continual usage, and possession, the acknowledgement, of all Neighbours, States, and the Municipal Laws of this Nation, have ever held the soveraigne Lordship of the Seas, of *England;* and that unto them (by reason their soveraignty) the supreme Command and Jurisdiction over the Passage and fishing in the same rightfully appertaineth; considering also the natural Seire of these our Seas, that interpose themselves between the great Northern Commerce of the North part of the world, &c. of that of the East, West, and Southern Climates; and withal, the infinite commodities that the fishing in the same is daily made, It cannot be doubted, but that the States by means of their Wisdom and Vertue, and by the Justice, and faithfulness, and obedient disposition of the Natives and people of this our Common-wealth, may easily (without injustice to any State or person whatsoever) be made the greatest State for Command and Wealth, and the people thereof, be the most oppulent and flourishing Nation of any other in the world; And this the rather, for that this State is now almost absolute Commander of all the British Isles and hath also enlarged their Domitions over a great part of the Western Indies; by means of which extent of Empire, crossing in a manner the whole Ocean, the trade & perions of all Nations moving from one part of the world to the other, must of necessity come within the Compass of their

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their Power and Jurisdiction; And therefore the Sovereignty of our Seas being the most Precious Jewell of the State, and next under God: the principall means of our Wealth and Safety, All true English hearts and hands are bound by all possible means and diligence to perseve and maintain the same; even with the utmost hazard of their lives, their goods, and fortunes.

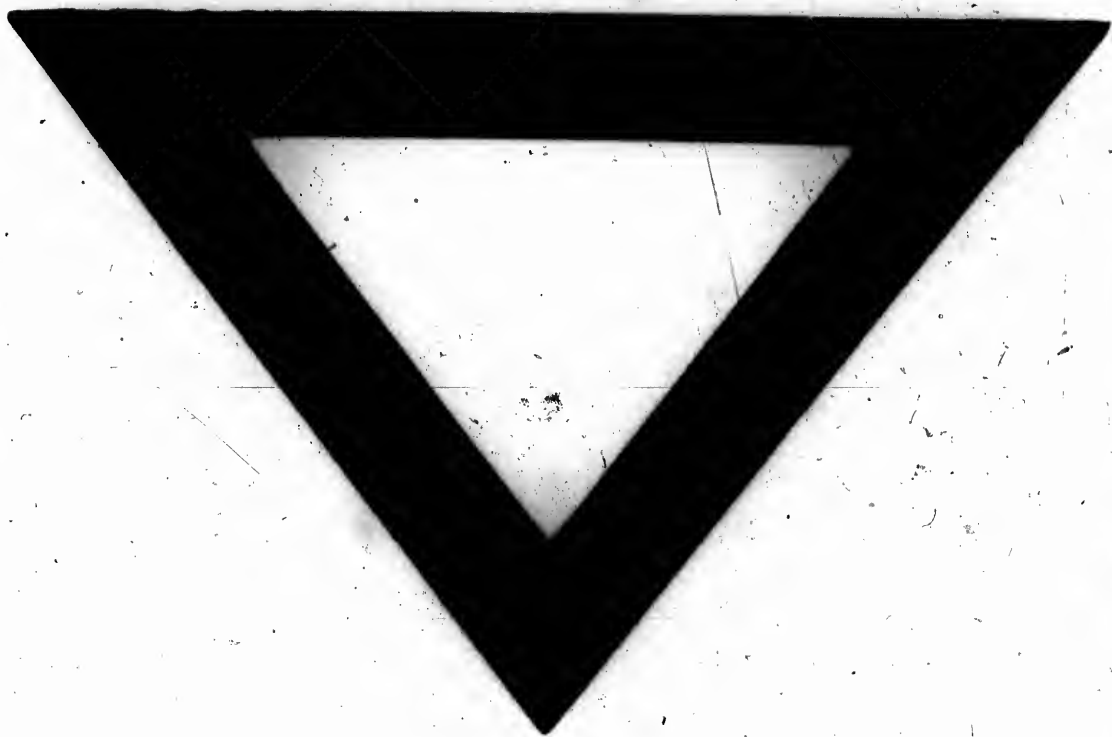
By all that which hath bin said, it doth appear how great a Nation *England* is, by reason of the inestimable Riches and Commodities which (besides our selves), other Nations our Neighbours do yeetly reap, especially by Fishing in our Seas; inso much that no Christian Prince in the World is Lord of any Territory that (considering all circumstances), yeildeth the like constant and general benefit.



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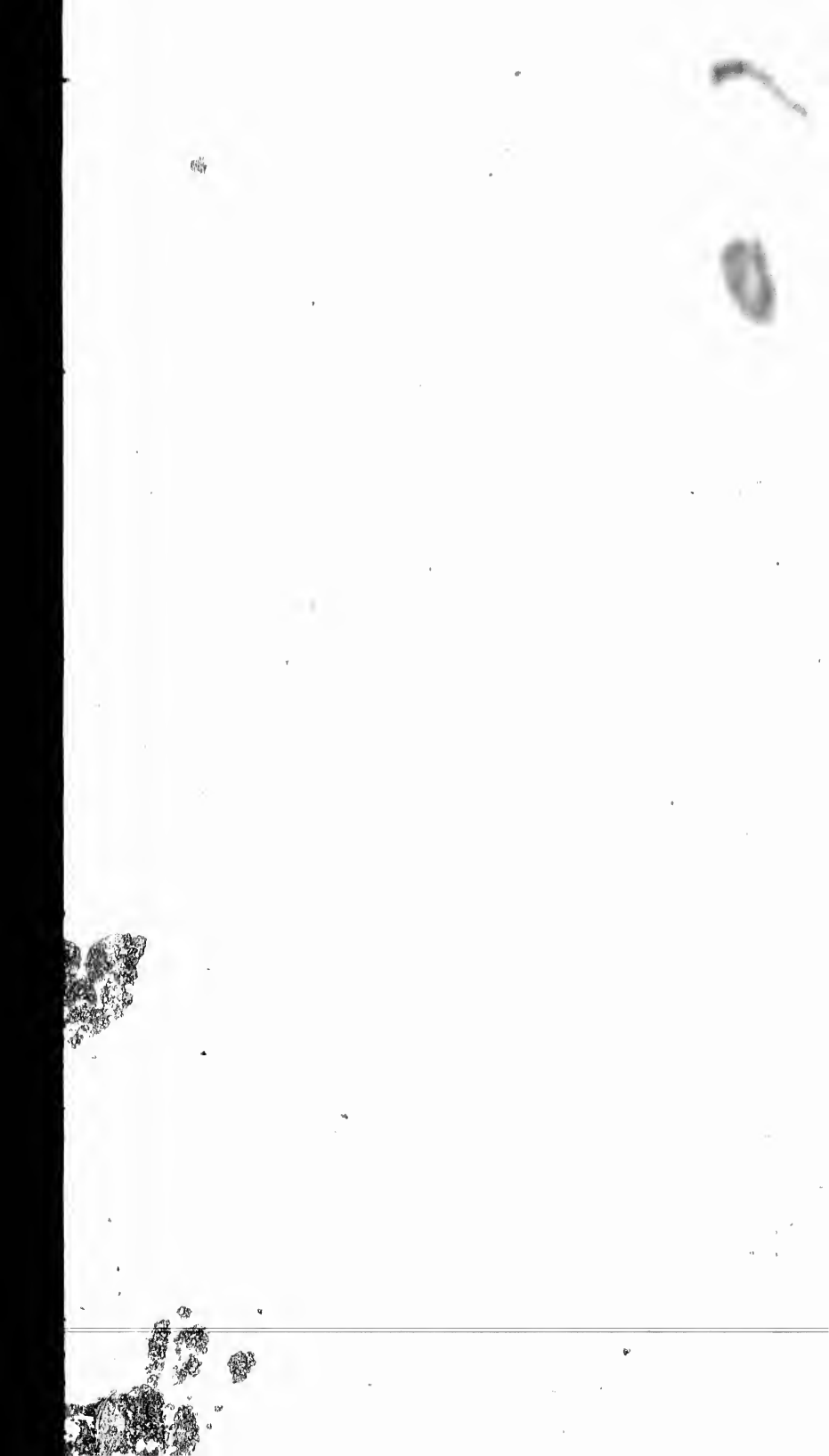


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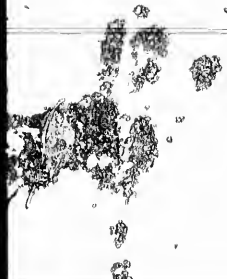
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