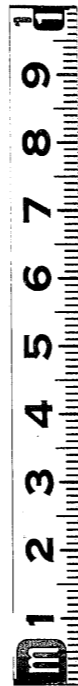


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A N  
 HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
 OF THE  
 NAVAL POWER of *FRANCE*,

FROM  
 Its first Foundation to the present Time.

WITH  
 A State of the *English Fisheries at Newfoundland* for 150 Years past.

AND  
 Various Computations, Observations, &c. proper to be considered at this  
 decisive Juncture.

To which is added,

A Narrative of the Proceedings of the *French at Newfoundland*, from the Reign  
 of King *Charles* the first to the Reign of Queen *Anne*; shewing what Measures were  
 taken on the Part of *England*, during that Interval, in Relation to the said *French*  
 Proceedings, &c.—First printed in the Year 1712, and now reprinted for general  
 Information.

Rather than the FRENCH ambitious thoughts should now aspire to *greatness of Shipping*,  
 it were far better, happier, and safer for us, to proclaim an everlasting *War* against them, than  
 by suffering a Peace, they should attain to a *Strength by Sea*; for Princes in Matters of most Impor-  
 tance ought to govern by Rules of State, and to be directed by Precedents of Times.—Admiral Sir  
*William Monson*, one of Queen *Elizabeth's* faithful Servants—his *Naval Tracts*, book 5, page 423.

Shorten them in their Trade and Navigation, and their numerous Armies will devour one another. Sir Francis  
*Brewster*—his *Essays on Trade*, Anno 1702, page 10.

Most humbly submitted to the Consideration of the PARLIAMENT and PEOPLE of  
 GREAT BRITAIN.

By J. M A S S I E.

L O N D O N:

Sold by T. PAYNE, in Castle-Street, Charing-Crofs; and W. OWEN, at Temple Bar.  
 M,DCC,LXII.

[Price One Shilling.]

A N

# HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

## NAVAL POWER of FRANCE, &c.

**T**HE first attempt to form a regular Naval Power in *France*, was made in the reign of the French King *Henry* the fourth, who came to that crown in the year 1589, and after establishing the principal manufactories now in *France*, he set about establishing a naval power also; but the renowned Queen *Elizabeth*, ever happy in discerning national evils at the greatest distance, no sooner heard of the *French* building only one ship of war, than she sent to forbid the *French* King's building great ships, else she would fire them in his harbours.—Usurpations of *France* on Trade of *England*; by *J. B.* printed anno 1679, page 1, and *Britannia Languens*, printed in 1680, page 257.

2—So well-timed a display of princely wisdom and magnanimity could not fail of operating strongly upon the *French*, and accordingly we find, that they did not venture upon a second attempt to establish an immediate naval power, till above fifty years after the death of that most excellent Prince; but they were not long in finding out what a mighty difference in head and heart there was between her and the next King of *England*, and it was that miserable alteration which gave them an opportunity to sow the seeds of a future naval power, without making any shew of it at that time.

3—For instead of building ships of war at home, the *French* asked leave to fish for herrings, &c. abroad, and having obtained this, for five boats only, *French* fishing-boats soon became so numerous on the *British* coasts, as not only distressed our fisheries in general, but to almost ruin the towns of *Hastings* and *Rye* in particular; and though so abominable an abuse of that fishing-licence, and its dangerous tendency, ought to have produced an immediate revocation of it, yet

was there nothing more done therein, than restraining them for two or three years to the number of boats allowed; and Sir *William Monson*, who was the admiral employed in that service, says, that even this was not affected without bloodshed—his Naval tracts, pages 218 and 491.

4—King *James* the first having thus contributed towards a future naval power in *France*, by means which at the same time diminished the naval power and wealth of *England*, King *Charles* the first soon after followed his example, by granting leave for the *French* to catch fish at *Newfoundland*, for a convent of *English* ladies in *France*; and that leave was likewise so abominably abused in the course of twenty-five years from the time it was granted, which was in 1633 or 1635, that instead of one fishing ship, which would have supplied many convents, the *French* had above two hundred and fifty sail of ships fishing for cod at *Newfoundland* in the year 1658.—Mr. *John Collins* on Salt and Fishery, printed in 1682. page 95.

5—Thus did weak or wicked councils suffer the *French* to take away employment and maintenance from about eight thousand *British* fishermen's families, and to both breed and maintain at our cost the like, or a greater, number of fishermen in *France*, which were the first foundation of the naval power that soon after alarmed all *Europe*; but those *French* fisheries seeming to be necessary upon the score of religion, and not being accompanied by the building of many *French* ships of war, they were suffered to go on increasing therein till a concurrence of events, unfortunate for *England*, gave *France* a safe opportunity of unmasking her intentions in regard to the establishment of a naval power.

6—For they who by usurpation held the supreme power of *England* from the year 1654 to 1660, having taken part with *France* against *Spain*,

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it was not to be expected that they would obstruct, but rather promote an increase of French power, which in fact they did, by not maintaining England's sole right to the Newfoundland fishery; and therefore the French took that opportunity, to lay a duty of fifty sols per ton upon all foreign ships which traded to the ports of France, in order to encourage the building and employing of French ships to carry on the French trade, the English parliament having, by an ordonnance some few years before, done something of that nature for this nation.

7—The English ordonnance was indeed at first intended chiefly to bring the Dutch to reason, but experience shewing the excellency of its nature in reference to all other nations, a law to the same effect was passed immediately after the restoration of King Charles the second, and is commonly called the Act of Navigation; but the French King's arret for imposing a duty of fifty sols per ton upon all foreign trading ships which entered his ports, was of so offensive and oppressive a nature, that, to retaliate the same, a duty of five shillings per ton was by our Act of Navigation laid upon all French ships which shall come to trade in the ports of England.—Statute 12 Car. 2. cap. 18. § 17.

NUMB. II.

8—THERE likewise was an intention to maintain our undoubted and sole right to the British fisheries, but this would have affected the Dutch so nearly, that there was no probability of our being able to carry it into execution, without involving the nation in a French and Dutch war, at a time when civil war had made peace necessary; for though England and Holland had one common interest against France, in relation to the French duty of fifty sols per ton upon all foreign shipping, yet Holland and France had the like common interest against England, in regard to the British fisheries, and the latter being of many times more consequence than the former, it was easy to discover which would have preponderated.

9—This was that concurrence of events unfortunate for England, which gave the French a safe opportunity of unmasking their intentions in regard to the establishment of a naval power, and the influence they afterwards obtained in the councils of England and Holland continued it, till they found safety in a powerful navy of their own; for notwithstanding the Dutch knew very well, that a duty of fifty sols per ton, upon their ships which traded to the ports of France, would take much trade, wealth and naval power from them, yet their governors gave up that fundamental point for the present gain arising from a favourable tariff with France, which the French soon after, and by

degrees infringed, in proportion as their own shipping and seamen increased.

10—I have not met with any exact account of the losses which the Dutch suffered by that means, but according to a state of the trade between France and Holland in the year 1659, inserted in Mr. Huetius his memoirs of the Dutch Trade, those losses must, in one shape or other, have fallen very heavy upon the republic of Holland; for it contains a specification of French commodities and manufactures yearly purchased by the Dutch, to the amount of above two millions of pounds sterling, all which were carried to the various markets of Europe in Dutch shipping, and thereby made very profitable to Holland, without reckoning the five or six hundred sail of Dutch ships which yearly loaded with salt at the several ports of France.

11—While the French werethus lopping off the Dutch, &c. trade on the one hand, they continued extending their usurpations upon our coast fisheries on the other hand, so that by the year 1680 nothing more was left to England of her former coast fishing trade than a wretched yearly export of red herrings, [Britannia Languens, page 168] for such was French influence here at that time; it is therefore reasonable to believe that, partly by usurpations upon the British coast fisheries, and partly by the European employment for French shipping in the trade of France, the French had nursed up twenty thousand seamen, with a proportionable quantity of merchant shipping, in the course of twenty years from 1659, when the French duty on foreign shipping was first laid.

12—This I call the first source of French naval power, because it was not only the first in point of time, but includes all the European means which France hath hitherto had, or in the common course of things can be expected to have, for the breeding and maintaining of seamen and shipping to support a naval power; it will therefore be necessary to inquire what other sources of naval power the French have at any time had in the other three quarters of the world, because the source already mentioned will not account for any French king's waging war against a king of England, much less will it explain how Lewis the fourteenth, or his successor, came to face both England and Holland at sea.

13—I say we must look towards some other quarter of the world, to find out how France came to be able to involve England in four general wars, which in a course of four score years have cost this nation two hundred millions of treasure, and the lives of three hundred thousand Britons, besides greatly burthening our trade with heavy taxes; and there is no other quarter of the world so likely to answer our purpose upon this occasion, as that wherein the French lately had many extensive fisheries and opulent colonies; for as to Asia and

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and Africa, they do not afford either fisheries or colonies for the nursing up of a great naval power, and therefore to prevent loss of time let us look towards AMERICA.

14—The continent and islands of America were first discovered by Sebastian Cabot on the part of England, and by Christopher Columbus on the part of Spain, chiefly between the years 1490 and 1500; but so vast a region being by far too great to be in any degree occupied by those nations for whom the discovery was first made, other nations came afterwards to have various tracts of land and islands, to which by degrees they brought people from their respective mother-countries, with all things necessary for the establishing of plantations or colonies there, and among other nations, the French came in for a large tract of land in North America, together with various West Indian islands, now called sugar colonies.

15—It is of these late French American territories, and likewise of the late French American fisheries, that we want to have some account, so far as shall relate to the breeding and maintaining of seamen and shipping for the support of a naval power in France, and without speaking of other matters any farther than they conduce to the main point, for the shortest geographical description that could be given of those widely extended dominions, would take up more room than will be necessary to contain all that is material to our present purpose, which will be sufficiently answered by giving only short extracts and an account of the numbers of seamen and ships employed in, or by means of, those colonies or those fisheries, and of the wealth from thence arising at different periods of time, &c.

NUMB. III.

CANADA, or New France.

11—THE earliest circumstance that I find related of this country, as a French colony, is mentioned by Admiral Sir William Monson, who says, that from the year 1542 the French have had a yearly traffic upon that coast for furs, as also in fishing; but in speaking of the progress the French had made in that colony near a century after, Sir William Monson likewise says, that they had sought to produce some benefit out of it, but all their labours proved vain; for they found that the cold destroyed all their good intentions, and the only gain they then made was in their furs.—His Naval tracts, pages 412 and 389.

17—Anno 1638. Mr. Lewis Roberts, a merchant, who took great pains to inform himself of the state of commerce in all quarters of the

world at that time, also says, that Canada affords only rich furs and skins—His Map of Commerce, Part I. page 57.

18—Anno 1695. The French King, in his Arret for regulating the trade of Canada, says, that it consists "particularly in buying and selling beaver-skins, which the inhabitants exchange with the natives, and afterwards with the French merchants."—French Book of Rates, translated Anno 1714, pages 213 and 214.

19—Anno 1706. A French author says, that Canada yearly produces furs worth one million of livres [not fifty thousand pounds sterling]; but yet was not able to pay for the goods wanted there from France, and so lost its credit—[This account is inserted in a description of Cape Breton, printed for M. Cooper, anno 1758, page 11.] And Messrs. Radot, in a memorial by them presented to the French ministry in 1706, say, that the whole commerce of New France turns upon 630,000 livres, which is not much above thirty thousand pounds sterling a year; and they truly enough observe, that such an insignificant sum is not sufficient to furnish 20 or 25000 people with what they are obliged to have from France—Importance of Cape Breton, printed for J. and P. Knapton, in 1746, pages 62 to 64.

20—Anno 1740. The exports from Canada about that time consisted of furs, peltry, a little lumber, timber, staves, tar and tobacco; and the whole produce was but little more than sufficient to subsist its inhabitants.—Dr. Douglas his History of North America, &c. Vol. I. pages 94 and 95.

21—Anno 1758. Mr. M. Postlethwayt, in his Treatise concerning the late Expedition to Senegal, &c. (page 40) hath inserted the following account of the yearly exports of furs and skins from Canada.

In Beaver, value £ 75,000	} making in all
Deer-skins ——— 20,000	
Furs ——— 40,000	

22—From this evidence concerning the trade of Canada, for above two hundred years past, there appears to me good reason for saying, that the commodities yearly exported from thence have not during any one period of time exceeded in value the sum of two hundred thousand pounds sterling; and with respect to the numbers of seamen and ships bred and maintained by the trade of that colony, it appears by the printed papers annexed to the report of a Committee of the Hon. House of Commons, in relation to the Hudson's Bay trade and Company, in the year 1749, that the usual number of British ships employed in carrying on the trade between this kingdom and Hudson's Bay is only three; but then the fur trade of Hudson's Bay is to the fur trade

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of *Canada* only as 2 to 3; and considering that, besides furs and skins, there are small quantities of lumber, timber, &c. likewise exported from *Canada*, the whole trade thereof may well enough be reckoned to breed and maintain two hundred seamen and ten sail of merchant ships.

LOUISIANA, or *Mississippi*.

23—The tract of land comprehended under this name, is even now but little known, and less cultivated; for the first *French* settlement that is said to have been made there, was no longer ago than the year 1698, [Dr. *Douglas*'s history of *N. America*, vol. 1. page 103.] and according to the evidence given by Captain *Fayrer Hall*, before a committee of the Hon. House of Commons, in the year 1731, that colony neither had made, nor was likely soon to make, any considerable progress; for he says, that he saw in *Carolina* about 80 people, mostly *Swiss*, who had found means to make their escape from *Louisiana*, under the command of one Captain *La Mar*, who told him, that out of above forty thousand people which had been sent from *France* to *Louisiana*, he questioned whether there were six thousand remaining, they died so fast; and that the survivors starved in the midst of plenty, as they were strangers to the woods and hunting; but it likewise appears by *La Mar*'s information, that the principal experienced men in that *French* colony were dead, which makes me suspect that the country is unhealthy, and that is what Dr. *Douglas* says of it, vol. 1. page 103: all which is made still more probable, by our cruizers having met with but very few, if any, *French* merchant ships homeward bound from *Louisiana*, during the whole course of this war; and therefore that colony cannot, upon the present occasion, be considered, as a source from whence the *French* have at any time past derived either sea men, ships, or wealth, towards establishing or maintaining a naval power in *France*.

## NUMB. IV.

FRENCH FISHERIES in *America*.

24—THE first fishery the *French* had in *North America* was upon the coast of *Canada*, and Admiral Sir *William Monson* says it was begun in the year 1542; but he in the same page takes notice of their not having any right to that country, for it truly and properly belongs to *England*, by right of first discovery; and it appears that Queen *Elizabeth*, during her long and glorious reign, kept a watchful eye upon the rights of her crown, even in that remote part of the world; for

her Admiral the Earl of *Cumberland* being out upon an expedition in the year 1589, and meeting with a *French* ship of two hundred tons, homeward bound from *Canada*, he took the said ship.—Sir *W. Monson*'s Naval Tracts, pages 412 and 161.

25—And so conscious were the *French* of their not having any right to either fisheries or colonies in *North America*, that they did not venture to make any settlement in *Canada*, while Queen *Elizabeth* was living; but in less than a year after her successor came to the throne, the *French* King *Henry* the fourth granted a patent to Monsieur *Le Mante*, for the planting of that country [Sir *W. Monson*'s Naval Tracts, page 412.] And we may easily believe that a king who suffered the rights of his crown to be thus invaded by land, would likewise suffer them to be invaded in the same manner by sea; the truth whereof too plainly appeared soon after, by the rapid usurpations of the *French* upon our fisheries in *North America*.

26—For exclusive of those ships which the *French* had fishing on the coast of *Canada*, above one hundred sail of *French* ships yearly fished on the bank of *Newfoundland*, about the year 1620, as appears by the second part of Captain *Richard Whitbourne*'s Discourse concerning *Newfoundland*, page 37, printed anno 1622; and, as if all nations had been let loose to prey upon a people whom under the glorious *Elizabeth* they dreaded, even our fishery at the island of *Newfoundland* was invaded by the *French* and other foreigners in a manner most shameful to suffer; of all which abuses Captain *Whitbourne* gave an account to King *James* the first and his privy council, but the wretchedness of the times prevented *England* from benefiting by it.

27—King *Charles* the first having married a Princess of *France*, he was prevailed upon to make those matters worse than his predecessor had suffered them to be; not only by surrendering *Canada* to *France*, after the *English* had taken *Quebec*, but by giving the *French* leave to fish at the island of *Newfoundland*, which was done in the year 1633 or 1635; and though that leave was pretended to be asked only for the supplying of an *English* convent in *France* with fish, it nevertheless proved to be a pretence for the *French* to send yearly to *Newfoundland* all the ships they could, so that in the year 1658 there were above two hundred and fifty sail of *French* ships employed in the *Newfoundland* fishery, as mentioned in my first paper upon this subject.

28—From that number of *Newfoundland* fishing ships in 1658, the *French* soon encreased them to four or five hundred sail, which continued to be their yearly number, until the great King *William*, after rescuing these nations from popery, slavery, and a legion of evils at home, stood forth to vindicate

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NUMB. V.

FRENCH FISHERIES in *America*. Part 2.

30—THE glorious revolution being happily effected by the establishment of King *William* upon the throne of *England*, that consummate statesman and general, by plenty-giving arts and courage-inspiring councils, soon manifested his ability to change those motly scenes of woe, which a bleeding nation, a distressed commerce, a pretender to his throne, and the exorbitant power of *France* exhibited to view; for a torrent of measures which gave stability to our constitution of government, encouraged agriculture, revived manufacturies, increased navigation, and cheered every true *British* heart, were accompanied by a declaration of war against *France*, the real source of those many evils which weak or wicked councils had continued heaping upon these nations for above four score years, so as in the end to make *French* power terrible to all *Europe*.

31—Such was the situation of affairs when King *William* declared war against *France*; and though he had not the felicity to see his greatness crowned with a shining train of successive victories, but some times gave hard blows and some times received them, as his superior genius or his inferior army turned the scale, yet was there something SOLID at the bottom of all this; for without the laurels of *Blenheim*, *Oudenarde*, *Ramillies*, *Malplaquet*, &c. &c. and without the conquests of *Martinico*, *Guadeloupe*, *Marigalante*, *St. Lucia*, *Goree*, *Pondicherry*, &c. &c. I say, that without having any of those laurels, or any of those conquests, King *William* drove the *French* quite out of *Newfoundland*, and, by the treaty of *Reswick*, made a clear stage all round that island for *Englishmen* to dry their fish upon.

32—This it is, that puts it out of my power to give any account of the *French* fisheries in *America*, between the year 1688 and the year 1713, when the treaty of *Utrecht*, like a pestilential blast, destroyed, what the great *William* and *Marlborough* had so arduously toiled for, during a course of near twenty years general war; and among the many evils thereby brought upon these kingdoms, that of suffering the *French* to set up fisheries again in *America*, will appear by the following account to be an evil of the first magnitude, for the said sufferance did in its consequences rob *Great Britain*, not only of maintenance and employment for above twenty thousand seamen, but of near one million sterling per annum, AND GAVE THE WHOLE TO FRANCE.

33—

dicate the rights and honour of *England* abroad; for these had both suffered so miserably by the pusillanimity of King *James* the first, by the crooked intentions of King *Charles* the second, by the debauched mind of King *Charles* the second, and by the despotic and Popish designs of the late King *James* the second, that they stood in need of all the wisdom, all the courage, all the military greatness, and of that love for *England*, which were most happily for these realms united in King *William* the third.

28—The following extract, concerning the state of the *French* fishery at *Newfoundland* before the year 1688, will shew how those four Kings had suffered the hereditary enemy of *England* to spin a naval power out of the bowels of the *English* nation.

"I told you before, that when the *French* began trading to *Newfoundland* they had very few ships; but since that time, their naval force is so much encreased, that, to the unspeakable grief of all honest men, as well as to the terror and danger of all *Europe*, we have seen them able to contend at sea with the united naval powers of *England* and *Holland*.—Nor are we to wonder at this, for of late years they have employed in the *Newfoundland* fishery four or five hundred sail of ships per annum, of good burthen, and mounted with sixteen to forty guns each.—If we compute them, as we may modestly do, to be manned with thirty or forty men per ship, that will amount at a medium to sixteen thousand men employed annually in this trade: and one-fourth of those being usually green men, it proves a nursery of four thousand seamen per annum, for their men of war and privateers."—Letter from a *West-India* Merchant to a gentleman at *Tunbridge*, (while the treaty of *Utrecht* was negotiating) printed anno 1712, page 7.

29—Certainly if any thing can add to the veneration that all true *Englishmen* will ever retain for the memory of Queen *Elizabeth*, it must receive addition from considering that she neither would suffer the *French* to build ships of war, nor to fish upon the *British* coasts, nor to establish either fisheries or colonies in *North America*; and after thinking one moment on the many evils above mentioned, we cannot blame the citizens of *London* for erecting in their parish churches many monuments to Her Memory; nor be surpris'd that the wise and brave Sir *Walter Raleigh* honoured her even in the dust; or wonder why the great Lord *Bacon* said, she was admirable among WOMEN, memorable among PRINCES, and in the race that TIME has hitherto run, be hath not shewn HER FELLOW.

34—An Account of the French Fisheries in America, as they were yearly carried on after the treaty of Utrecht and until the year 1744, when another French war interrupted them—collected by Lieut. General Pepperell and other officers employed in the taking of Cape Breton, anno 1745, partly from the information of French officers who had served in that island, and partly from such of our North American people as were best acquainted with the state of those fisheries—annexed to a journal of that expedition, sent over by Lieut. General Pepperell to Captain Stafford of Exmouth in Devonshire, and printed at Exeter in the year 1746.

34—From the gut of *Canis* down along shore to Louisbourg, and from thence to the north-east part of Cape Breton, there was yearly employed at least five hundred shallops. And these required, at sea and on shore, five men each; which amount to two thousand five hundred men: and sixty brigantines, schooners and sloops, each of fifteen men; making nine hundred men more: which together make three thousand four hundred men.

35—Allow these 500 shallops to catch 300 quintals of fish each in the summer season; and the whole is 150,000 quintals; and the 60 brigs, schooners, &c. each 600 quintals, which make 36,000 more. So that there is made at Cape Breton annually of fish one hundred eighty six thousand quintals.

36—Now, to carry this fish to Europe, to market, there must be employed 93 sail of ships, of the burden of 2000 quintals each, one with the other; and each of these ships have at least 20 men, which are 1860 seamen. And these, added to the 3400 fishermen above, make five thousand two hundred and sixty men, employed at Cape Breton only in the FISHERY.

37—At Gaspay, Quadre, and other harbours, mentioned in the following estimation, there are six ships yearly, which, as they come out from France manned to catch their own cargoes in shallops, which they haul up and leave in the country every winter, till they return the next spring, one with another may be allowed sixty hands. And, it has always been allowed, from St. Maloes and Grawville they have at least three hundred sail of these ships in this fishery, that fish at Petit Nord, Fishante, Bell-Isle, and the Gulph; which will, all computed as above (allowing those ships, that so come out to make their own voyages, to carry each 3000 quintals) be as follows:

	Ships.	Men.	Quintals.
At Cape Breton	93	5260	186,000
At Gaspay	6	360	18,000
At Quadre	6	360	18,000
At Port en Basque	6	360	18,000
At Le Foils Isles	3	180	9,000
St. Maloes Men	300	18,000	900,000
	414	24,520	1149,000

38—Here it may be objected, that of the three hundred ships above from St. Maloes (which they in-  
fit upon) some of them are some of those ships above-reckoned at Gaspay, Quadre, &c. which is well known to be so. But, then, no regard is here had to the ships so employed, among the rest, from St. Jean de Luz, Bayonne, Nantes, Havre de Grace, &c. which go annually into those parts on the same voyage: which are a great many more in number than those twenty one ships above; and would, could an exact list be had, much swell the account.

39—Besides all these, there have been constantly from the river Sendre, Olune, Poiteux, Havre, &c. one hundred and fifty ships at least, the French say two hundred sail, employed in the mud-fishery, or *mort* *vest*, (as they call it) from sixteen to twenty-four men each: which carry home, upon an average, from twenty-two thousand to thirty thousand fish in number; which make, on the most moderate estimate, one hundred and fifty sail of ships: and, on a medium, twenty men each, are three thousand men, and in the whole three million nine hundred thousand fishes in tale. These ships are fitted out in France for their voyages on the banks, and there tarry till they are laden; unless they meet with any accident or disturbance (in which case they resort to Cape Breton for shelter and supplies); and from thence home to France. And it was, thus, frequent for them, when they had made their voyages, to go into Cape Breton for water especially, as they had no other port.

40—In regard to the value of this branch of trade, it is necessary here to observe, that there is hereby produced a large quantity of *train-oil*; which France has always an immediate demand for at home, for their woollen manufactures, lights, &c. And with which also their sugar colonies, that cannot do without it, are yearly supplied. It is certainly well known that they either do, or may at least, make one hoghead of sixty gallons of oil, clear drawn off from the blubber, out of every hundred quintals of fish. And this, out of the quantity of fish before mentioned, will produce eleven thousand four hundred and ninety hogheads of oil. And allowing that four thousand fishes in number are equal to one hundred quintals, when cured, then the three millions nine hundred thousand mud-fish by the same rule, will yield nine hundred seventy-five hogheads of oil. Which added to the other make twelve thousand four hundred sixty-five hogheads of *train oil*, which are equal to three thousand one hundred and sixteen tons and a quarter.

Now, let the 1,149,000 quintals of fish be valued only at 10s. sterling per quintal, the prime cost usually at Newfoundland, and it is worth

And,

And to this, allow 3 s. sterling }  
freight per quintal of it, in English } 172,350 00  
bottoms, to market

And then the fish only is worth 746,850 00

And let the 3116 and qr tons of }  
oil be valued at 18 l. sterling per } 56,092 10  
ton, the amount of it is

As to the mud fish, it is general- }  
ly sold in France at 1000 livres per } 178,750 00  
1000 fish; and then at 11d. sterling }  
per livre, their value is

And thus it appears that one }  
year's fishery of the French only is } 981,692 10  
worth, sterling

So vast a source of naval power and wealth did the treaty of Utrecht give up to France!

Well might Charlevoix, an eminent French writer, assert that those FRENCH FISHERIES are of more value than the mines of Peru!

This I call the second source of French naval power, because it commenced before the French sugar colonies were planted, or even possessed by the French; and to shew how far it hath contributed, since the treaty of Utrecht, towards supporting a naval power in France, we need only refer to the preceding account, where we shall find that the value of it for WEALTH, is almost one million of pounds sterling a year; and that in respect of NAVAL POWER, it employed and maintained about six hundred sail of merchant ships, and twenty seven thousand seamen, besides yearly breeding 6 or 7000 seamen for the French King's navy, whenever he might be pleased to prepare for another war against Great Britain, and think of again involving Europe in misery and bloodshed.

NUMB. VI.

FRENCH SUGAR COLONIES in America.

36—THE islands and territories usually comprehended under the general title of French Sugar colonies, have of late years been Martinico Guadeloupe, half of St. Domingo or Hispaniola, Cayenne with its district on the continent, Marigalante, Granada, with various other islands, which either are small in themselves, or afford the French but little advantage as sugar colonies.

37—It is not material upon the present occasion, to know the exact times when the French took possession of, or first begun to erect plantations in all, or any, of the above named islands and territories: because the national importance of them chiefly consists in the production of sugar, the cultivation whereof was but little, if at all, known

to either English or French planters in the West Indian islands, until some of those Dutchmen whom the Portuguese had driven out of Brazil, soon after the year 1640, came to seek safety among the English and French, at that time newly settled on those islands, and taught them the arts of cultivating sugar-canes and making sugar; which, Monsieur Labat says, were first practised by the English in St. Christopher's, anno 1643, by the French in Guadeloupe, anno 1648, and soon after in Martinico—his voyages to America, vol. 3. page 130.

38—I shall therefore begin with the year 1660, when it appears that the French sugar colonies had made some progress, by their giving employment to near twenty ships in that year.—Manuscript Collection of the Right Hon. Charles Montagu, Esq; Chancellor of the Exchequer in the reign of King William, and afterwards created Earl of Halifax, vol. 14. page 70.

39—Anno 1666—The French ravaged our islands of Antigua, Montserrat and St. Christopher's, [from whence it may be presumed that the French sugar colonies had much increased within those few years, though the number of ships employed by them at that time doth not appear by any account I have met with.] Mr. John Collins his Plea for importing Irish cattle, &c. anno 1680, page 20.

40—Anno 1667—The French King made a reformation in his customs, and by greatly increasing the duties on foreign sugars imported into France, he caused the French sugar colonies to increase much faster than they had done before—French Book of Rates, translated anno 1714, pages 97 and 109.

41—Anno 1680—The French sugar colonies were become so powerful; their islands being full manned, and they having a considerable fleet commonly abroad in those parts, that Mr. John Collins, a sensible writer of those times, did not think it proper to say much about our sugar colonies—his Plea for importing Irish cattle, &c. page 20.

Anno 1681. About this time, the bringing of tobacco from the French part of St. Domingo or Hispaniola to France, employed above three score ships [Memorials of the Deputies of the Council of Trade in France anno 1701, printed for J. and P. Knapton, in 1736, page 18]; which tobacco ships seem to be exclusive of above three hundred sail of ships that the French sugar colonies were likewise said to employ, a few years before the reign of King William [Charles Earl of Halifax his Manuscript Collection, vol. 14, page 70]; and the following extract, concerning the state of the French European sugar trade at that time, will make it easy to believe that the quantity of shipping then employed by all the French sugar colonies,

nies, must have been at least four hundred ships of good burthen,

“ The French sugar colonies not only supply France with all the sugar it wants, which formerly took off some thousand tons of English sugar; but by making Dunkirk custom-free for sugars, had before the war driven the English quite out of the sugar trade in Flanders, which formerly took off great quantities of English sugar; and also supply the markets of Holland, Hamburgh and Germany.”—The same MSS Collection, vol. and page as before.

Mr. John Cary, a merchant of Bristol, and several of our sugar planters, in the reign of King William, all agree that the French had gained a great part of the foreign European sugar trade before the year 1688, though they express themselves in such general terms, that the above short extract shews more than all they have said about the matter; but the following account of the numbers of armed white men, and negroe slaves, in the principal French sugar colonies about that time, is so material to our present purpose, that it cannot properly be omitted; though it doth not express the numbers of inhabitants in Cayenne and its district, Granada, Marigalante, nor in those two districts of St. Domingo which are included under the names Cape Francois and Port de Paix, nor mention for the other colonies, any more than their numbers of armed or fencible men, which constitute but a fourth or third part of the number of white inhabitants, even in that less healthy part of the world.

	white men	negroe
	armed	slaves
Martinico	3,500	16,000
Guadeloupe	1,500	8,000
St. Christopher's French part	2,000	12,000
St. Croix	600	
St. Domingo, district of Leogane	2,000	15,000

If this account had been completed for all the French sugar colonies, I am persuaded they would have been found to contain one hundred and twenty thousand white people and negroes; but the above is all that the deputies of the council of trade in France say of their strength at that time [Deputies Memorials, pages 2 to 4]; and this, with the several matters before mentioned, will make it unnecessary to say more concerning the state of the French sugar colonies, when King William came to the throne, than that they had so far increased, as to give employment and maintenance to full four hundred sail of ships, and about sixteen thousand seamen; for it seems that Lewis the fourteenth, in order to increase his naval power the faster, had supernumerary seamen educated on board the French trading ships, at his own charge [Britannia Languens, anno 1680, page 258]; and that is the reason why forty, if not more seamen may properly enough be reckoned to each of those 400 French ships.

—Between the year 1688 and the year 1713, the French sugar colonies were so effectually harassed by British squadrons, or lesser armaments, that in the year 1701 they did not employ above one hundred sail of ships [as appears by the before quoted memorials of the deputies of the council of trade of France, page 1], though it was the fourth year after the peace of Ryswick; for King William very well knew, what a vast source of naval power and wealth those sugar colonies had been to France, and therefore he prosecuted the war in that part of the world, with all the vigour he could; by successively sending to the West-Indies Captain Wright, Captain Wren, Sir Francis Wheeler and Captain Wilmot, with such naval and other forces as could be spared, and the event shewed that those gentlemen did their King and Country good service there.

NUMB. VII.

FRENCH Sugar Colonies in AMERICA.

THE wars during the reigns of King William and Queen Anne having reduced both France and the French sugar colonies to a very low ebb, we may well imagine that a number of years were necessary for that kingdom and those colonies to recover, in any considerable degree, from the many severe wounds and bruises which British valour had given them; and accordingly we find, that the ruin breeding treaty of Utrecht did not operate upon sugar colonies, so as to alarm our sugar planters in particular, or the British nation in general, until the year 1728 or 1729, by which time the French sugar colonies were so far recovered as to be able to supply France with sugar, and to bring a considerable quantity of that commodity to several foreign European markets.

I could fill a sheet of paper with only the titles of petitions, cafes, letters, answers, reasons, objections, &c. which our sugar planters wrote upon the occasion, to lay the fault here, and to shew the remedy was there, &c. but all those affairs are foreign to our present purpose, for that will be sufficiently answered by shewing to how great a pitch the French sugar colonies did arrive; and therefore I shall, in the first place, insert an abstract of the value of the yearly produce of sugar and other commodities, in the French sugar colonies, about the year 1740, as collected or computed by William Perrin, Esq; planter in Jamaica, and inserted in his State of the British and French Sugar Colonies, printed for T. Cooper in the year 1740, in the 44th page whereof the French sugar colony produce is estimated as followeth.

Sugar. Ninety five thousand hogheads (besides supplying France); whereof consumed in the British dominions 15,000 hogheads, and in foreign European markets 80,000 hogheads. Indigo. To the value of one million of pounds sterling: whereof for French home consumption £ 250,000, and for exportation to foreign American and European markets £ 750,000. Cotton, Cocoa, &c. (besides supplying France) to the value of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. Total value— One million eight hundred thousand pounds sterling, besides supplying their mother country; and all paid for by the produce and manufactures of France.

This account Mr. Perrin hath given of the matter; and I find that he is supported in the main article of Sugar, by another account (said to be taken by order of the French King) of the quantity of sugar produced in the French colonies in the year 1742, for it is there made to be about one hundred and twenty two thousand five hundred hogheads of twelve cent lb. each hhd.—State of the Sugar Trade, &c. printed for E. Say, anno 1747, Appendix B. Numb. 1.—And as to the articles of indigo, cotton, cocoa, &c. I think they may be allowed to stand at Mr. Perrin's computation though it vastly exceeds Mr. Heathcote's computation, for the French at that time supplied Great-Britain and most of the other countries in Europe with indigo.

The following accounts of the computed quantities of sugar yearly sold in the foreign European markets, about the year 1740, and of the real quantities of sugar imported into Hamburgh that very year, will shew how the French then rode triumphant over all other nations, in this affair of the sugar trade.

Foreign European markets for sugar.	quantity sold.
Hamburgh, Bremen and other German ports	30,000
Holland (besides what they bring home)	30,000
Petersburgh, Dantzick, &c. in Baltick	3,000
Cadix, &c. (besides Spanish sugar)	5,000
Genoa, Leghorn, Naples and Messina	8,000
Venice, &c. in Mediterranean	4,000
<b>Total (hogheads of 12 cent. lb.)</b>	<b>80,000</b>

Sugar imported into Hamburgh—anno 1740  
From France - - 33,761 casks of 9 cent lb. neat  
Portugal - - 5,918 chests of 12 cent lb.  
Poor England, only 21 hogheads.

Thus we see, that French sugars, like the loadstone attracting iron, drew money into France from all quarters; for the above distribution of 80,000 hogheads is to be understood of French sugars only, though Mr. Ashley, the maker of it, did not mean so; it appearing by the latter of those accounts that the Portuguese imported almost 6,000 hogheads of sugar into so northern a port as Hamburgh, and I have good reason to believe that they imported above 30,000 hogheads more into other countries, especially in the southern parts of Europe.

This being all that it is necessary to say about the French sugar colonies as a source of wealth, nothing more remains than to make a computation

of

of the ships and seamen which at the time above mentioned they employed and maintained; and we are to include therein, those 15,000 tons of shipping and those 2,000 seamen which the British northern colonies employed in their contraband trade with the French sugar colonies; because that trade was held only by courtesy, and might have been transferred from our northern colonies to France, though not without some inconvenience and loss to the French sugar colonies; and therefore I shall in this case consider the whole as belonging to France.

To carry from the French sugar colonies to Europe, &c. 120,000 hogheads of sugar and about 80,000 hogheads of melasses or rum, there may be allowed 120,000 tons of shipping, and if we rate their indigo, cocoa, cotton and all other exported produce at 20,000 tons more, the whole will amount to one hundred and forty thousand tons of shipping; which quantity of tonnage being divided by 200, will give for the number of ships employed seven hundred sail of 200 tons burthen, and if we allow one seaman per ten tons of shipping, the quota of each ship will be twenty seamen, merely for navigation, which for two hundred sail amounts to fourteen thousand seamen; and might have been, if it was not augmented to 21,000 or more, by breeding supernumerary seamen on board each ship, as Lewis the fourteenth did in the last century.

The due consideration of all which matters will enable any man to find out, why the deputies of the council of trade in France, said in one of their memorials, that the navigation of France owes all its increase and splendour to the commerce of its islands, meaning their sugar colonies.

N U M B. VIII.

IN my seven former papers upon this subject; I have traced out the several sources of the naval power of France, from their respective commencements to the beginning of the last French war, in the year 1744; and I have given an account of the various ebbs and flowings which appear to have been wholly or in part caused therein, by wars prosperous to Great-Britain and wise British councils, on the one hand: or by concurrences of events unfortunate to Great-Britain, and weak or wicked British councils, on the other hand.

I am now to unite those sources of French naval power, in order of time, to the end that every person may the more easily discover, how far the same have at different periods of time enabled the French Kings to equip and maintain naval armaments, or in other words, a naval power.

Anno 1542-- The French begun to trade with the natives of Canada, and to fish upon the coasts of that country; but the same being an infringement of the undoubted rights of the crown of England, the French subjects were obstructed in the prosecution of such their unjust proceedings; a proof whereof, by the capture of a French ship coming from Canada, in the year 1589, I have inserted in the first paragraph of my paper No. 4; it cannot therefore be said that the French had even this small Rivulet of naval power, until the sufferance of King James the first put them in possession of it.

Anno 1620---The French had above 100 ships fishing yearly on the bank of Newfoundland, besides others at the island of that name, and on the coast of Canada [No. 4. paragraph 3;] and their number of boats, which King James the first likewise suffered to fish upon the British coasts, probably was by that time increased to about 100 [No. 1. p. 3.]; the whole whereof I rate as followeth.

Fishing ships in N. America 150 with 3,000 seamen  
Fishing boats on Brit. coast 100 - - 500

Totals - - 250 - 3,500

Anno 1658-- The French had above 250 ships fishing at Newfoundland, which I believe was meant to comprehend the whole of their fisheries in North America [No. 1 p. 4;] and their boats fishing on the British coasts probably might be increased to 200 by that time; we are also to reckon upon 20 ships for the French sugar colonies [No. 6. p. 3.]; all which may be rated as followeth considering that the French then begun to attend to the bulk of their shipping.

Fishing ships in N. America 250 with 6,250 seamen  
Ships for French sugar colonies 20 - - 500  
Fishing boats on Brit. coasts 200 - 1,200

Totals - - 470 - 7,950

From this time forward I shall distinguish the sources of French naval power, by the three distinct main branches whereof it consists; including under the first branch, all their coast and European trade; under the second branch, all their fisheries in America; and under the third branch, all their sugar colonies; without taking any farther notice of Canada, Louisiana, the French fisheries on the British coasts, or mentioning their trade to East-India; because those little rivulets of naval power are mere trifles, when compared with the three main branches which have since made France so formidable.

Anno 1680---About this time the French European trade, their American fisheries, and their sugar colonies, were arrived at the meridian of that greatness which bore down all before it; until King William, the great deliverer of these kingdoms stemmed the torrent.---It therefore will be

ne-

necessary to shew the state of the three sources of French naval power, at this juncture.

	ships	seamen	
1st Branch Europe	- 800,	20,000	[No. 2 p. 4.]
2d-----Fisheries	- 450,	16,000	[No. 4 p. 7.]
3d-----Sugar cols.	400,	16,000	[No. 6 p. 10.]
Totals	- 1650,	52,000	

Anno 1701---At this time the French had no fishery in Newfoundland; nor more than 100 ships employed by their sugar colonies [No. 6 p. last;] we may therefore pass on to.

Anno 1744---At which time the French coast and European trade may with reason be estimated at one fourth part more than it was in or about the year 1680, considering the increased foreign consumption of French wines, &c. and of French fishery and sugar colony produce: but the reader is desired to remember that supernumerary seamen are not reckoned upon in the following state, because I do not know that the French have of late years bred any on board their trading ships.

	ships	seamen	
1st Branch European	1000	- 20,000	
2d-----Fisheries	600	- 27,000	[No. 5. end]
3d-----Sugar cols.	700	- 14,000	[No. 7 p.]
Totals	- 2,300	- 61,000	

After thus uniting the sources of French naval power, to shew their whole force at different periods of time, as it appeared upon the face of their trade; it will be expedient to lay open those Reservoirs of naval power which the French had filled to amazement, by breeding supernumerary seamen on board their trading ships; for even after all the devastations with two general wars had made among the seamen of France, and at the end of twenty years from the down fall of French fisheries and French sugar colonies, there were living in the French dominions; the following numbers of French seamen. [Mr. M. Postlethwayt's state of French navigation &c. pages 73 and 74.]

Captains, Mates, Gunners, Carpenters, &c.	16,610
Common seamen	41,278
Unexperienced seamen	11,276
Ship boys	10,920
Invalids	12,366

Total - - - - - 92,450

Reader, if thou art a BRITON, think of posterity.

N U M B. IX.

IN my first paper upon this subject, I have quoted two English writers, to shew that the ever renowned Queen Elizabeth, foreseeing the many great evils which a French Naval Power would bring upon the posterity of a People, whose happiness and glory were the study of her life and the delight of her soul, SHE would not suffer the French King Henry the Fourth to build so much as one single ship of war; and the thing is more than proved, by the following words of an eminent French writer upon Naval Power.

„ The scarcity of ships, under which Henry the Fourth laboured, and which was so great, that „ Cardinal Richelieu made no difficulty of saying „ to Lewis the Thirteenth, that his Father had „ not so much as a single vessel at his command, „ Monsieur Deslandes his Essay on the Maritime Power of France, &c. translated for P. Vaillant, Anno 1743, page 78.

But even this was not all; for I have in my Possession a brass coin of the French King Henry the Fourth, upon the reverse whereof there is the following Inscription--HENRICUS IV. FRANCORUM ET NAVAR REX. -which incontestibly proves that Queen Elizabeth would not suffer that King to usurp her undoubted title of Queen of France, but made him acknowledge it, upon his own coin, by calling himself only King of the French.

From this Zenith of English Glory we must descend to the gloomy regions of later times; and without stopping at the siege of Rochelle, to give an account of the number of French or other trading vessels which upon that or other occasions assumed the character of Ships of War, I shall proceed directly to the year 1659; because Lewis the Fourteenth, in his Edict for fixing the Rates of Custom on Merchandize, hath drawn a striking Picture of the Naval Power of France at that time, which the Reader may see, in the following words.

„ And after having thus done every thing in our „ power to restore Trade within the Kingdom, „ We have applied the greatest of our care, for „ encouraging Navigation and Commerce also „ without, as the only means to enrich our Subjects, „ To this end, having found by Experience, that „ strangers had made themselves masters of all the „ Trade by Sea, NAY, even of the coasting Trade „ from port to port of our own Kingdom; and yet „ the small number of Ships, which remained in „ the Possession of our Subjects, were every Day „ taken just at our own Doors, as well in the Levant Seas as in the Western Ocean; We have „ established [by an Arret bearing Date 21 June „ 1659,]

1659,] the Imposition of Fifty Sols per Ton, on the Freight of all Strangers Ships, at the same time discharging those of our own Subjects, encouraging them thereby to build and fit out a sufficient number of Ships for their Coastling Trade: at the same Time we have put to Sea, so considerable a Fleet both of Ships and Gallies, as should oblige the Corsairs of Barbary to keep in their Ports and Places of Retreat,--the Edict is dated in the Month of September 1664,--French Book of Rates, translated Anno 1714, Pages 11 and 12.

This Picture, Lewis the Fourteenth hath left, of the Naval Power of France in the year 1659; when the French, by long and gradually increasing Usurpations upon the British Coast and Newfoundland Fisheries, had nursed up a Body of Eight Thousand French Seamen, the Evil Consequences whereof to England very soon appeared; for with those Seamen the said French King manned Ships of war as fast as he could build them, while on the other Hand his Subjects were building more Merchant Ships and breeding up more Seamen, for the farther Extension of his Naval Power; which increased at such a Rate, that in the year 1664 he had Twenty Ships of War, in 1667 their Number was augmented to Sixty, and in 1681 he had near One Hundred Ships of the Line of Battle.

An Account of the French NAVY, Anno 1681.

- Thirty Gallies with Three Thousand French Slaves to row them.
  - Fifty four Frigates, Fireships, Barcalongas, with near a Thousand Guns & above Three Thousand Men
  - Twenty Fifth Rates, with above Six Hundred Guns and Seven and Twenty Hundred Men.
  - Twenty Six Fourth Rates, with above a Thousand Guns and Five Thousand Men.
  - Thirty-Six Third Rates, with almost Two Thousand Guns, and above Eleven Thousand Men.
  - Twenty-One Second Rates, with Fifteen Hundred Guns, and above Eight Thousand Men.
  - Twelve First Rates, with above a Thousand Guns, and near Eight Thousand Men.
- Such an amazing Naval Power did Lewis the Fourteenth raise in Twenty-Two Years, from 1659 to 1681!

Under these alarming Circumstances, Sir Francis Brewster says, " he who should sixty years ago, have written upon Trade, and told us that this would happen, and that the French would be able to contest the Sovereignty of the Seas with the Dutch and English at once, would have been laughed at; but we see it is come upon us," and in the same Page he also says, " that in his Memory the French Admiral carried but Fourteen Guns,"--Brewster's Essays on Trade, Anno 1702, Page 5.

All Nature cannot give a stronger Proof than this! of what France will be able to undertake against Great Britain, in much less than Twenty Years; if, by any Treaty of Peace with this Kingdom, the French shall be put in Possession of far

The State of the French Navy in the year 1664 and in the year 1667, appears by the following Extract from a small Treatise intituled, a Free Conference touching the present State of England, [ in Relation to the Designs of France ]; it was printed by the special Appointment of the Earl of Arlington in January 1667-8, and undoubtedly was either written by the Ministers of State at that Time, or at least contains their Sentiments in regard to the Intentions of France and the Means proper for defeating them.

" Not above Three Years ago, France was hardly able to set forth Twenty Ships (that is to say, Men of War); now they have Sixty large Vessels, ready furnished and well armed; and do employ all their Industry and Pains in every Part to augment the Number. Could the Ghost of Queen Elizabeth return back into the World again, she would justly reproach us who are the Ministers of State here in ENGLAND, for having abandoned her good Maxims, by tamely suffering before our Eyes a Maritime Power to increase, which she so diligently kept down, throughout the whole Courte of her Reign--- P. 49.

more extensive Fisheries, and far more opulent Sugar Colonies, than those which enabled Lewis the Fourteenth, in Two and Twenty Years to raise, from the very Foundation, so formidable a Navy as that now mentioned.

I shall therefore proceed to give a State of those mighty Sources of Naval Power and Wealth before the War; a State of such French Sources of Naval Power and Wealth, as British Valour hath, under Providence, transferred to Great-Britain in the Course of this War; and, after inserting a Partition of the Preliminaries, with other necessary Matters, I shall add another State, shewing in what Condition a Treaty of Peace, conformable to those Preliminaries, will leave the French Sources of Naval Power and Wealth.

Nº. I.

A State of the American Sources of French Naval Power and Wealth, before the present War.

NAVAL POWER.		Ships	Seamen	WEALTH.		Pounds Sterling
From the French Fisheries	- -	600	-	27,000	From the French Fisheries	- - - 800,000
the French Sugar Colonies	700	-	14,000	the French Sugar Colonies	-	1,800,000
Totals		- -	13,00	* 40,000	Total	- - - † 2,600,000

\* This Number of Seamen was necessarily employed in fishing or in navigating the Ships.

† This was only the neat yearly Gain arising to France, after supplying that Kingdom with Fish, Sugar, Indigo, &c.

Nº. II.

A State of such French Sources of Naval Power and Wealth as British Valour hath gained in this WAR.

NAVAL POWER.		Ships	Seamen	WEALTH.		Pounds Sterling
All the French Fisheries in America	600	-	27,000	All the French Fisheries in America	-	800,000
Half (in value) of their sugar colonies	350	-	7,000	Half (in value) of their Sugar colonies	-	900,000
Canada	- - - -	10	-	Canada	- - - -	200,000
Senegal	- - - -	20	-	Senegal	- - - -	100,000
Totals		- -	980	-	34,600	Total - - - - 2,000,000

N. B. Cape-Breton is reckoned for in the Fisheries, and Goree is only valuable as a Port and Magazine.



N<sup>o</sup>. III.

A PARTITION of the Preliminary Articles of Peace between Great-Britain, France and Spain, 3<sup>d</sup>. November, 1762.

Art.	Miscellaneous matters.	Cessions to Great-Britain.	D <sup>o</sup> . to its Allies.	D <sup>o</sup> . to France & Spain.
1	Hofilities to ceafe			
2	France no Right to Nova-Scotia	Canada and Cape-Breton		
3	-	-	-	} Fishery at Newfoundland, Fishery in Gulph of St. Lawrence. } Fishery at St. Peter's and Miquelon
4	-	-	-	
5	Fixes Boundaries in North-America	Dunkirk to be unfortified East Part of Louifiana		
7	-	-	-	} Guadeloupe, Mariegalante, Defirade, Martinico, Belle-Ile
8	-	Grenada and Grenadines		
9	Partition of neutral Islands	St. Vincent, Dominico, Tobago		St. Lucia
10	East-India Poffeffions as they were	Senegal		Goree
11		Minorca		
12			Conquefts in Hanover, Hefle, &c.	
13	} both Armies to evacuate Germany; neither to fuccour German Allies	-	} Pruffian Fortreffes and Countries of Cleves, Wezel, Guelders, &c. to be evacuated	
14		Oftend & Newport evacuated		
15	Regulations about Spanifh Ships taken			
16		Right of cutting Logwood		Fortifi <sup>n</sup> . in Honduras, &c.
17	Spain no Right to Fifh at Newfoundland			
18				Havannah and Cuba
19		East Part of Florida		
20			Conquefts in Portugal	
21	Conquefts not known of, to be mutually reftored without Compensations			
22	Times of Reftitution and Evacuation			
23	Confirmation of former Treaties.			
24	Prifoners of War mutually reftored			
25	Times when Hofilities at Sea end			
26	Ratifications when to be exchanged			
	Declaration			France may pay Arrears of Subfidies.

According

According to the Third and Fourth Articles of thefe Preliminaries, the French are to be allowed, not only thofe Parts of the Coasts of Newfoundland, which the Treaty of Utrecht allowed them, but they are likewife to have the Iflands of St. Peter and Miquelon which are fituated on the South Side of Newfoundland, to the weftward of Placentia Bay; and they are alfo to be allowed to fifh in the Gulph of St. Laurence, at the Difftance of Three Leagues from all the Coasts belonging to Great Britain, as well thofe of the Continent, as thofe of the Iflands fituated in the faid Gulph; but it doth not appear that Great Britain, is to fend a Sloop of War along with each French Fifhing Ship, to meafure Difftances, and tell the French Captain when he comes too near Shore.

However, it appears that the French are to have Fisheries on all the Three Sides of Newfoundland, which is what they never had by any Treaty hitherto made between Great Britain and France, and what will put the French Fifhing Ships upon better Terms at foreign European Markets, than the Britifh fifhing Ships poffibly can be; for the French by having Fisheries at the Iflands of St. Peter and Miquelon, on the South Side of Newfoundland, will fhare with the Englifh in the early Fifhery, which begins Six Weeks fooner than the Fisheries on the northern Coasts of Newfoundland, where the Cod Fifh are faid to be much larger and more valuable, but the Englifh cannot fhare with French in thofe northern Fisheries, BECAUSE the whole Coast is allowed to France.

The Two following Extracts, from the beft historical Account I have yet feen of our Newfoundland Fisheries, will fhew what are likely to be the Confequences of the French having the Iflands of St. Peter and Miquelon; exclusive of the Confequences of running French Goods into the Britifh Colonies in Time of Peace, and being Nefts for Privateers in Time of War.

„ The Allotment granted [by King Charles the firft to] the French for curing their Fifh, was to the weftward of Cape Raze [the South Eastern Point of Newfoundland] which was a very great Blunder in Politics, that being the moft fouthely Part of the Ifland, where the Fifh come Six Weeks fooner than any where elfe, and gave them [the French] an Opportunity of being at Market fo long before us, ---, by fortifying St. Peter's Ifland, which lies at the North weft Corner of the Bay of Placentia, they not only make that Bay USELESS TO US, but may be able to protect their own Ships which fifh, and dry there, or fail in Canada River--Letter from a Weft India Merchant to a Gentleman at Tunbridge (while the Treaty of Utrecht was negotiating) printed Anno 1712, Pages 3, 4 and 12.

The fame ingenious Writer likewife accounts for the French gaining Five Times as much Money by the Fisheries at Newfoundland, as the Englifh ufually did; even when the French were confined to a narrower allowance of Coast than thefe Preliminaries grant to them, for they generally cured Five Quintals of Fifh to our One, . . his Words are as follow,

„ They have a fhorter Voyage from the Weft Parts of France than we; [they] have Salt better and cheaper; pay lefs for Seamens Wages and Provisions [by victualing in Ireland]; and have fome Fifhing Tackle at eafier Rates: fo that by a modeft Computation, they can afford their Fifh a Crown per Quintal cheaper than we--- Page 8.

Now that the French really have fome fuch vaft Advantages over the Englifh, as are here reprefented, is moft notoriously proved by the Experience of a Hundred Years, during all which Time, excepting when prevented by Wars or the Treaty of Rifwick, there ufually have been Five French to One Englifh Ship fifhing at Newfoundland; and the fame Experience alfo fhews, that confining the Fisheries to the northern, or to the fouthern Parts of Newfoundland, doth not help our Fifhermen; for fince the Treaty of Utrecht confined the French to the former, they have had Five Ships to our One, and in the Reign of King Charles the Second, when they were confined to the latter, their Superiority was nearly the fame.

I have already given a chronological Account of the French Fisheries at Newfoundland &c: and I will now fhew what Numbers of Ships have been employed, or what Quantity of Fifh have been taken, by the Englifh at Newfoundland from the Reign of Queen Elizabeth to the prefent Time, viz<sup>t</sup>.

When the French fifhed only by Connivance at Newfoundland, there were the following Numbers of Englifh Ships employed in fifhing there.

Anno 1605---Two Hundred and Fifty Sail-- Sir Jofiah Child's Difcourfe on Trade, Page 205.

Anno 1615---Two Hundred and Fifty Sail, with 20 Men and Boys to each Ship; making in the whole, Five Thoufand Men and Boys, and Fifteen Thoufand Tuns of Shipping---Captain Richard Whitbourne's Difcourfe concerning Newfoundland, Anno 1620 Part 1. Pages 11 and 12.

Anno 1620---Above Two Hundred and Fifty Sail---the fame Difcourfe, Part 1. Pages 29 & 30. When the French fifhed by Licence, on the Coasts of Newfoundland, there were the following Numbers of Englifh Ships employed in fifhing at that Ifland,

Anno 1640---About this Time the Number was reduced to One Hundred and Fifty Sail-- Sir William Monfon's Naval Tracts, Book 4. Page 404 Anno

Anno 1680--About this Time our Newfoundland Fishery was decayed to less than a Fourth part of what it was Twenty or Thirty Years before--*Britannia Languens*, printed Anno 1680, Page 168.

Anno 1690-- About this Time the Number was from Sixty to Eighty Sail--*Charles Earl of Halifax* his Manuscript Collection, Vol. 14 Page 35. and Sir *Josiah Childs* Discourse on Trade, Page 205

From the Treaty of *Utrecht* in the year 1713 when the *French* Fisheries were restricted to the northern Coasts of *Newfoundland*, between *Cape Bonavista* on the East Side, and *Point Riche* on the West Side of that Island, I find the following Account of the *British Newfoundland* Fishery.

Anno 1724 Fifty nine Sail of Ships were employed, and they caught One Hundred and Eleven Thousand One Hundred Quintals of Fish--*Doctor Douglas* his History of *America*, Vol. 1, Page 292.

Anno 1732 -- The Quantity of Fish shipped off from *Newfoundland* by *British* Subjects, was about Two Hundred Thousand Quintals -- the same History, Vol. and Page as before.

Anno 1747 -- The Quantity of Fish shipped off as abovementioned was somewhat more than Two Hundred Thousand Quintals -- the same Vol. and Page of that History.

Thus we see, by the Experience of a Hundred Years, that whether the *French* fished on the Northern, or on the Southern Coasts of *Newfoundland*

it made no Difference to *Great Britain*; for in both Cases they have always had the Substance of those Fisheries, and we but little more than the Shadow of them; and if by any definitive Treaty, made conformable to the Preliminary Articles of Peace, the *French* are to be allowed to share with us, in the Fisheries on the Southern Coasts of *Newfoundland*, and in the Fisheries within the Gulph of *St. Lawrence*, besides retaining all the Fisheries on the Northern Coasts of *Newfoundland*; I say, if *France* is to have such Terms granted to her, I believe that all our Fisheries in those Parts may soon be carried on by FIFTY Sail of Ships.

However, I will suppose that, granting such Terms to *France*, will not make the *British* Fisheries in *North-America* worse upon the whole, than they have usually been since the Treaty of *Utrecht*, though it be doing more than the Experience of a Hundred Years, in regard to the *British* and *French* Fisheries in that Part of the World, will really admit of; and conformable to that Supposition, I shall rate the *French* Fisheries in Time to come, at what they were before the Beginning of the last War against *France*; which, Matters being premised, it will now be necessary to shew in what Condition, a Treaty of Peace conformable to the Preliminary Articles, will leave the *French* Sources of Naval Power and Wealth.

No. IV.

A Comparative State of the Profits which will arise to *Great-Britain*, and of the Losses which will ensue to *France*, from the present War, if a Peace be made conformable to the Preliminary Articles; so far as relates to Sources of Naval Power and Wealth.

	Profits to <i>Great-Britain</i> .				
	immediate	Ships	Seamen	Wealth	
By the Fisheries in <i>N. America</i>					
By the Sugar colonies one Tenth of the <i>French</i>	70	-	1,400	-	180,000
By <i>Canada</i>	10	-	200	-	200,000
By <i>Senegal</i>	20	-	400	-	100,000
Totals of immediate Profits	100		2000		480,000
Totals given up by the Preliminaries	880		32,600		1,520,000
Totals gained by <i>British Valour</i>	980		34,600		2,000,000

According to this State, and the Preliminary Articles of Peace, *France* will not sustain any greater immediate Losses in her Sources of Naval Power and Wealth than One Hundred Merchant Ships; Two Thousand Seamen; and Four Hundred and Eighty Thousand Pounds Sterling a Year, which bear but a wretched Proportion to our Conquests; for in respect of Naval Power we are to give up about Nine Tenths of the Employment our For-

ces had acquired for *British* Shipping, with Sixteen Parts out of Seventeen of the Employment and Maintenance gained for *British* Seamen; and in respect of Wealth we are to give up Three Parts in Four of that yearly Revenue which *British Valour* had gained.

This appears to me to be the utmost of the Profits which will immediately arise to *Great Britain*, and, by Consequence the utmost of the Losses which

which will ensue to *France*: but we must look forward, to see what Alterations may reasonably be expected in these Affairs, &c. at the End of Ten Years from this Time; for it doth not by any Means certainly follow that our Acquisitions of Sugar Colonies, *Canada*, and *Senegal* will in Time to come bring the same Advantages to *Great-Britain*, as in Time past they brought to *France*, and I have proved the Thing to be quite otherwise in regard to the *British North-American* Fisheries, by shewing that while the *French* have shared with us therein, they had Four Parts in Five of the whole.

I hope this will not be the Case in regard to our newly acquired Sugar Colonies, because I have ever been of Opinion that we are able to make our part good in that Branch of our Colony Trade; and therefore I do admit, though the Fact may prove otherwise, that *French* Sugar Colonies will not grow worse in our Hands; but with respect to the Fur Trade of *Canada*, I do believe, that partly by *French* Ships being allowed to fish in the Gulph of *St. Lawrence*, and partly by the *French* keeping Possession of the Country on the Western Side of the Head of the River *Mississippi*, they will find Means to retain one Half of the Fur and Skin Trade, which is all reckoned upon in the comparative State of Profits and Losses, &c.

*Senegal* is the last Article to be taken Notice of in the preceding Account; and considering that the *French* were able to keep the Gum Trade of that Country to themselves, I do not see any Rea-

son why *Great-Britain*, by having Possession of that Territory may not do the same, if care be taken to prevent a Trade with the *French* at *Goree*; but I see two solid Reasons for not reckoning upon any Advantage from *Florida* and *Louisiana* in Ten Years; which are, that *France* and *Spain* alternately have had Two Hundred Years Possession of the former, without being able to make any thing of it; and that the *French*, after labouring above half a Century to reap Profit from the latter, are in Effect no forwarder than they were many Years ago.

So that upon the whole, we cannot expect to gain by this War, either immediately or at the End of Ten years to come, even all those comparatively small Pittances of naval Power and Wealth which are reckoned upon in the preceding Comparative State of *British* Profits and *French* Losses, after so glorious a War; but we may expect that in Ten years Time, *France* will be able, by those Sources of Naval Power and Wealth which the Preliminaries have ceded to her, to put to Sea a much more powerful Navy than ever *Lewis* the Fourteenth had, without saying any thing of the *Spanish* Navy; and how *Great Britain*, after losing One Hundred Thousand MEN, and expending One Hundred Millions of TREASURE, in this War, will in Ten years Time be prepared for such another War, I shall not presume to guess; because I would much rather see it made appear that we are a People not doomed to Destruction--

This Historical Account of the Naval Power of *France* &c. would have been published last Winter, if the Detention of near Two Thousand Pounds which are due to me, had not then kept it out of my Power to continue writing and publishing at my own Expence, as I have for near Six years, whatever I thought might contribute to promote the true and reciprocal Interests of the King and People of *Great Britain*; and I must leave the Public to account for the said Detention, either by *British* or *French* Reasons, as they shall judge most proper, until I find it necessary to point out the Man, &c.

A LETTER from a *West-India* Merchant to a Gentleman at *Tunbridge*, Concerning that Part of the *French* PROPOSALS, which relates to *North-America*, and particularly *Newfoundland*.

S I R,

I Receiv'd yours, wherein you tell me that several of our Merchants are mightily pleas'd with the Proposals of *France*, to restore to us the whole Island of *St. Christopher*, the whole Bay and Straits of *Hudson*; to deliver up the Island of *Newfoundland*, with *Placentia*, and to make an absolute Cession of *Annapolis*, with the rest of *Nova Scotia* or *Accadie*; and the Assiento or Contract for furnishing the *Spanish West-Indies* with Negro's for 30 Years, in the same manner as the *French* have enjoy'd it for ten Years past.

I make no doubt but some People magnify the Advantage of these Proposals as much beyond Truth as others do lessen them: But since you are pleas'd to desire my thoughts of the matter, I will deal with you freely, according to the best of my Judgment and Information.

All that they propose to restore us in *America*, was our own before, except part of *St. Christopher's*, which we took from them in this War, and therefore have a Right to it by the Law of Arms: so that our Obligation to them on this Head is not extraordinary.

You will be the more readily convinc'd of this, by considering the following Passages of King *William's* Declaration of War against *France* in 1689, where he charges the *French* King with 'invading our *Cha-*

' *ribbee* Islands, and possessing himself of our Territories of *New-York*, and of *Hudson's-Bay*, in a hostile manner; seizing our Forts, burning our Subjects Houses, and enriching his People with the Spoil of their Goods and Merchandizes; detaining some of our Subjects under the Hardship of Imprisonment, causing others to be inhumanly kill'd, and driving the rest to Sea in a small Vessel, without Food and Necessaries to support them; actions not becoming ev'n an Enemy: And yet he was so far from declaring himself so, that at that very time he was negotiating here in *England* by his Minister, a Treaty of Neutrality and good Correspondence in *America*.'

I believe you will readily agree with me, that the *French* King's Cession of his share of *St. Christopher's*, is not an Over-balance for the Damages he is charg'd with doing us, in this Declaration; which contains another Article relating to *Newfoundland*, as follows.

' It is not long since the *French* took Licenses from the *English* Governor of *Newfoundland* to fish in the Seas upon that Coast, and paid a Tribute for such Licenses, as an acknowledgment of the sole Right of the Crown of *England* to that Island; and yet of late the Incroachments of the *French* upon our said Islands, and

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' our Subjects Trade and Fishery, have been more like the Invasions of an Enemy, than becoming Friends, who enjoy'd the Advantage of that Trade only by Permission.'

For the better understanding of this matter, be pleas'd to consider, that we have had a Title to it since 1497, when *Sebastian Cabot* discover'd it for *Henry VII*. We had a flourishing Trade there in King *James I's* time, and enjoy'd it without any Rival till the ninth of *Charles I*. who by some means or other was prevail'd with to allow the *French* to fish there in favour, as I have been inform'd, of some *English* Popish Ladies that belong'd to a Nunnery in *France*; and the *French* Ships were oblig'd to pay 5 per Cent, as an Acknowledgment.

This Liberty granted the *French* was so much the more observable, because that Prince in his Letters Patent dated the 10th of *February* that same Year, for the better Government of the Fishing, Ships, Inhabitants, &c. take notice, 'That *Newfoundland* had been acquir'd to the Dominions of his Progenitors, and his People had many Years resorted to those Parts; where, and on the Coasts adjoining they employ'd themselves in fishing, &c. where by a great number of his Subjects had been set at work, and Navigation and Mariners much increas'd.'

The Allotment granted the *French* for curing their Fish was to the Westward of *Cape Raze*; which was a very great blunder in Politicks, that being the most Southerly Part of the Island, where the Fish come six weeks sooner than any where else, and gave them an opportunity of being at Market so long before us.

The *French* having then but few Ships, and King *Charles I's* Reign being a continu'd Scene of Troubles. as every one knows, this Matter seems not to have been so much regarded as the Importance of it requir'd; so that the *French* tasting the

Sweets of the Trade thither, they were willing, for the continuance of that Privilege, to pay sometimes three Quintals of Fish for every Fishing-Boat they employ'd, and at other times 10 per Cent, according to the Value of the Fish they took. It deserves our Observation, that as they obtain'd the first Liberty of Fishing here in the Reign of *Charles I*, when we had a *French* Queen, who had two much influence on our Government; in the 27th of King *Charles II*, who we found by sad Experience was for the most part govern'd by *French* Councils, they not only had that Liberty confirm'd, but their former Tribute, in acknowledgment for that Liberty, remitted.

We are not to wonder that those Grants were confirm'd in the Reign of King *James the Second*, who entirely depended on *France*, and was in a strict Alliance with *Lewis XIV*. But upon the whole you may see, that the *French* were so sensible of the Weakness of their Title, that they found it necessary to get this Liberty confirm'd by every successive King, some way or other.

Thus things continu'd till the Reign of King *William the Third* of Glorious Memory; who being sensible of the vast Importance of this Trade, was so far from confirming those *French* Grants, or approving the arbitrary Measures of his Predecessors in disposing any part of it to Aliens, contrary to Law, that by the 10th and 11th of his Reign, cap. 25. he settled the whole Right of it in his own Subjects, exclusive of Aliens, as follows.

' Whereas the Trade of, and Fishing of *Newfoundland*. is a beneficial Trade to this Kingdom, not only in the employing great Numbers of Seamen and Ships, and exporting and consuming great Quantities of Provisions and Manufactures of this Realm, whereby many Tradesmen and poor Artificers are kept at work, but also in bringing to this Nation, by re-

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turns of the Effects of the said Fishery from other Countries, great Quantities of Wine, Oil, Plate, Iron, Wool, and sundry other useful Commodities, to the Increase of his Majesty's Revenue, and the Incouragement of Trade and Navigation: Be it enacted, &c. That henceforth all his Majesty's Subjects, &c. shall have, use and enjoy the free Trade and Traffick, and Art of Merchandize and Fishery to and from *Newfoundland*, and take Bait, and fish in any of the Rivers, Creeks, Seas or Islands adjoining or adjacent thereunto, as fully and freely as at any time heretofore hath been us'd or enjoy'd by any of the Subjects of his Majesty's Royal Predecessors, without any hindrance, &c. of or from any Person whatsoever; and THAT NO ALIEN OR STRANGER WHATSOEVER (not residing within *England*) shall at any time hereafter take any Bait, or use any sort of Trade or Fishing whatsoever in *Newfoundland*, or in any of the Islands or Places above mention'd.

I need not tell you that the *French*, by the Incouragement they had to settle here in the Reigns of the two *Charles's*, and King *James* the Second, instead of being Tributaries as formerly, took upon them to be our Masters, and were grown so strong, that during the last War, and particularly in 1697, they almost drove us out of all our Settlements there, and destroy'd or carry'd off our Men. To redress which King *William* sent a Squadron thither under Admiral *Nevil* in 1697, and fifteen hundred Landmen under Sir *John Gibson*. They recover'd all that the *French* had taken from us; and when the Peace was concluded, his Majesty knew the Trade to be of such Importance, that he sent annually a Squadron thither to protect it. Sir *John Gibson* built a regular Fort there, which he call'd *Fort William*; and it was afterwards so improv'd by Colonel *Richards*,

that it was one of the most regular and strongest in that place.

'Tis a melancholy Story to tell you how much *Newfoundland* was neglected after King *William's* Death, and how in 1705, the *French* destroy'd several of our Settlements there, and carry'd off our Men; and how little Care was taken to prevent this, notwithstanding the frequent Memorials presented by those concern'd in the Trade.

Having then given you a brief View of our sole Right to *Newfoundland*, and of the false Steps of three of our successive Monarchs, in suffering the *French* to settle there, to the infinite Loiss of our Nation: I shall next give you some few hints of the vast Advantage the *French* have reap'd by that Trade, both in respect of their Wealth and Naval Power.

I told you before, that when the *French* begun trading thither they had very few Ships, but since that time their Naval Force is so much increas'd, that, to the unspeakable Grief of all honest Men, as well as to the Terror and Danger of all *Europe*, we have seen them able to contend at Sea with the United Naval Powers of *England* and *Holland*. Nor are we to wonder at this, for of late Years they have employ'd in the *Newfoundland* Fishery 4 or 500 Sail of Ships per ann. of good Burden, and mounted from 16 to 40 Guns each. If we compute them, as we may modestly do, to be man'd with 30 or 40 Men per Ship, that will amount at a Medium to 16000 Men employ'd annually in this Trade; and one fourth of those being usually green Men, it proves a Nursery of 4000 Seamen per ann. for their Men of War and Privateers:

Then as to the Advantage they make by their Trade thither, it has exceeded ours by far; the Reasons of which are as follows.

1. That part of *Newfoundland*, which our late Governments unhappily admitted them into, is much better than what we kept to our-

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ourselves during those Reigns; for lying furthest S. as I hinted already, their Seas are clear of Ice at least six Weeks before ours, where the Shoals of Ice continue many times till the beginning of *May*.

2. In their part they have greater Quantities of Fish, because the Climate is much warmer than ours, which lies to the N. E. so that 'tis computed that one time with another they kill 1 or 200 Quintals per Boat more than we.

3. They have a shorter Voyage from the West Parts of *France* than we, have Salt better and cheaper, pay less for Seamen's Wages and Provisions, and have some fishing Tackle at easier rates; so that by modest Computation they can afford their Fish a Crown per Quintal cheaper than we, which with their being at market before us six Weeks sooner is worth five Shillings per Quintal more to them: and since we reckon fifteen or sixteen Shillings per Quintal a good Price for our Fish, 'tis plain that they gain  $\frac{2}{3}$  more by what they sell than we do, besides what they exceed us in Quantities, which they must do now more than ever, by being possess'd of *Spain*, where their supreme Command in the Civil Government, and their Agreement in Religion, must always give them the preference to us, if they be allow'd to fish on the Coast, or to cure on the Shore or Settlements of *Newfoundland*, or any of the adjacent Islands.

By what I have said you may easily perceive the vast Profit the *French* have reap'd by that Trade, and the great Disadvantage we have labour'd under by losing it. Our Western Ports, such as *Barnstable* and *Biddiford*, are most sensible of this damage, tho' the Loss affects all the other Parts of the Kingdom. 'Tis known that those two Towns alone did formerly employ above 50 Ships in that Trade, which enabled them in the beginning of King *William's* Reign to supply the Navy with 400 Volunteer Sailors: whereas now they don't fit out

above six or eight small Ships, and are scarce able to find Men for these. The like Decay of Sailors there is in all the other Ports of the Kingdom, which lessens our Naval Strength that is our Natural Defence, lessens the Revenue of the Crown, and the Value of Gentlemen's Estates.

From all this you may reasonably conclude, that 'tis absolutely necessary the greatest Care should be taken in the present Treaty, that the *French* should not only quit *Newfoundland* entirely, but that they should not have the Liberty to fish on that Coast, to cure their Fish on the Islands, or to fortify any of the Neighbouring Islands.

You find this was the Sense of King *William* and his Parliament by the above-mention'd Act, thereby I don't see how any such Privilege can be granted by Treaty to the *French* without the repealing of that Act, which I hope no *British* Parliament will ever give into.

My Reasons are these:

1. 'Tis plain by what I have already said, that they never had any Right to it, but what by indirect Methods they obtain'd from the Crown of *Great Britain*, which is now made void by that Statute, or what they procur'd by the Sword: and as we are now superior to them in that respect, I hope we ever shall be so.

2. If they be allow'd the Privilege of fishing and curing on the Coast, either it must be indefinite, or restricted to such and such Parts. If the former, then to be sure they will chuse the same Places they now make use of; which being the best of the Island, they will have the same Advantages over us they now enjoy, and so the Cession can signify nothing to us, but on the contrary will make our Trade worse than it is: for if they be allow'd the use of our Harbours and Ports, they will furnish our Settlements there with several sorts of *European* Goods, cheaper than we can do; which will ruin the Trade that we had by furnishing

ing our own Settlements, considering, as I hinted already, that their Voyage is shorter, and they victual and sail at lower rates; which, together with their having the Liberty of our Harbours while we are at the Charge of the Forts, and the better vent they must now have for their Fish by being Masters of *Spain*, will enable them to out-fell us, tho' we fish and cure in the same Parts: besides, having the Freedom of our Ports, &c. 'twill minister continual Occasions of Quarrels betwixt our People and theirs, and in case of any future Rupture, which we can't expect will be long a coming with a People of such an unconstant Faith, 'twill make them capable of surprizing our Settlements, and of driving us out of them, as they have done already; so that I hope we shall never willingly make another Experiment of such troublesome Neighbours.

Then if they be restrain'd to other places worse than those they now frequent, the Trade will be of little use to them; for we having the same Advantage of being sooner at Market and of the best Harbours which they now have, shall be able to outfell them; so that we can't expect the Friendship betwixt us to be durable in either Case. Therefore I think it is reasonable to conclude that they must not be allow'd either to fish or to cure in or near *Newfoundland*, or the Islands there unto belonging.

I have heard that the *French* demanded not only a Privilege to fish in the Sea of *Newfoundland*, and to cure their Fish on the Coast as hitherto, but likewise that all the Fortifications there should be demolished; that no others should be erected there, or on any of the adjacent Islands; and that they should have liberty to make a Settlement, and raise Fortifications on the Island of Cape *Breton*. But I hope neither of these will ever be granted them. Not the first, because without Forts we can't defend our Settlements, either against the *French* in case of a new Rupture, or against other Nations or Pirates, who may settle there, if there be no Fort to hinder them; so that we may be outed at plea-

sure: therefore the very Proposal looks with so much of an ill design, and is so dishonourable, that I don't see how any Englishman can hear it without emotions of Anger and Contempt.

As to the 2d: If that be granted, we had as good leave them *Newfoundland Accadie, &c.* intire to themselves; for this Island of *Breton* is separated from *Accadie* only by a narrow Channel, and lies so near *Newfoundland*, that if the *French* be allow'd to settle and fortify there, they may when they will, command both, and by the help of their *Canada* Indians, dislodge us when they please. Besides by fortifying *St. Peter's* Island, which lies at the N. W. corner of the Bay of *Placentia*, they not only make that Bay usefess to us, but may be able to protect their own Ships which fish and dry there, or sail into *Canada* River. And if they be allow'd to settle at *Petit Nord*, which extends from Cape *St. John* N. of *Bonavista*, to Cape *Hamilton*, the most Northerly Point of *Newfoundland*; this being the Place us'd by the *St. Malo's* Ships, which are the greatest they imploy in the Trade; they will have the same Advantage there they ever had, and greater: because that being the shorter Passage to *Canada*, they can more easily call in their *Canada* Indians.

By all this 'tis plain, that when they demand the Isle of *Breton*, with leave to fortify there, they demand the Key of the whole Country; for the Harbour at the Cape is large and commodious, for entertaining great numbers of Ships. The Place is naturally capable of being well fortify'd. The Island is about 60 Leagues long, 10 or 12 broad, about 140 in Circuit; abounds with Pines and Firs proper for Masts, &c. And here they may erect a Fishery for dry Fish, which are to be had more early, and in greater Plenty at this Place than in *Newfoundland*: and by its situation is not only capable, upon any Rupture, to destroy our Trade, but to disturb our fishing on the Coast of *New-England*; which is of very great importance.