

are extraordinarily populous, but also in the English and Dutch Islands, with which they trade. Thus they would draw much money from all the colonies, even if the introduction of our goods were not openly permitted. 1713-24.

Finally, nothing is better calculated than this establishment to induce the French merchants to embark in the cod fishery; because, as the island of Cape Breton would furnish Canada with goods, the vessels coming there to fish, would take a cargo, half in merchandise and half in salt, so that they would make a double profit, while now the ships which go from France to the cod fishery, carry salt only; moreover, the increase of the fishery might enable France to supply Spain and the Levant with that fish, which would draw much specie to the kingdom.

The whale fishery, which is very abundant in the Gulf, towards the coasts of Labrador, and in the St. Lawrence River, up as far as Tadoussac, might also be one of the most important advantages of this settlement. Ships engaged in this fishery, would lay in goods in France to be disposed of in Cape Breton, or left with the agents of the shippers. At the same place they would take in barrels, and proceed to carry on the fishery, which is easier in that place, being made in summer, and not in winter, as in the north of Europe, where the whalers must remain amid the ice, under which the whales are frequently lost when harpooned. Here the whalers would make a profit on the goods they carried to Cape Breton and on their fishing; and this double profit would be made in less time and with less risk, than that made in the north from whale-oil alone; and the money sent to the Dutch for this article, would remain in France.

It has been already remarked, that the island of Cape Breton can furnish of its own production, masts and timber for building in quantities; it can also readily draw timber from Canada; this would increase the reciprocal trade of these two colonies, and afford the kingdom great facilities in ship-building. This wood could be obtained from this island, instead of our being forced to buy it