

that whole Trade would be expos'd to the *English* Privateers from the Northern Colonies in time of War, without any Place to retreat to ; and in time of Peace, they would be without any Sea Port, they can call their own, or lay any Pretensions to in those Seas ; but *Louisbourg* serves them as an Harbour for their Ships employed in this Trade to resort to for Wood and Water, to clean or repair, for Convoy from thence to *Old France*, and on occasion of any Distress ; as it likewise goes to their Vessels to and from *Canada*, by having the Cover and Command of great part of the Gulf of *St. Lawrence* ; without which Protection and Retreat their Trade from thence, and even the Country itself, would not be worth the Expence, which *France* is at for the Maintenance of them.

To all this must be added, that the Possession of this Island puts it into their Power to annoy the Trade of the *British* Northern Colonies in time of War with their Privateers from this Harbour, to so great a Degree, that it has ever been called by the *English*, the *Dunquerque* of *North America*.

From the foregoing Enumeration of the Advantages accruing to the *French* from their Possession of this Island, it is obvious of what Importance the Possession of it would be to the *English*.—The *English*, when the *French* are intirely excluded from the Cod Fishery ; which they must be, when they lose *Cape Breton*, and are not allowed any Privilege at
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