

of *Great-Britain*; and that, with Respect to the Country situate to the North-West, between the two Lines above mentioned, as far as the River *St. Lawrence*, it shall not be inhabited or possessed by the Subjects of either of the two Crowns.

The *British* Court imagine, that this Proposal will perfectly answer all the Ends of Security and mutual Convenience; but on the other Hand, they observe with Concern, that the Conditions and Restrictions under which *France* pretends to give up the Possession of the Peninsula to *Great-Britain*, are subject to such insurmountable Difficulties and Objections, as must render Possession of the Peninsula entirely useless.

1<sup>st</sup>, As to the Proposal of allowing the Space of three Years to all the *French* who inhabit the Peninsula to retire with their Effects, that would deprive *Great-Britain* of a very considerable Number of useful Subjects, if the same Privilege should be extended to the *French* who were settled there at the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and to their Descendants.

By the Fourteenth Article of that Treaty, the Inhabitants had in Fact, the Liberty of removing themselves elsewhere, with all their moveable Effects, within the Space of one Year; but that Time being elapsed Forty Years since, there is not the least Reason why the same Right should still subsist; and it is not to be supposed\*, but that those who voluntarily continued under the Dominion of *Great-Britain*, as also their Descendants, born in that Country, would, with the greatest Regret relinquish their Settlements, even if it were possible that the King of *Great-Britain* could consent to a Proposal so disadvantageous.

2<sup>d</sup>, Whatever Desire *France* may have to possess the *Isthmus* and *Beau-Bassin*, as the only Communication during a considerable Part of the Year between *Quebec* and

\* These Inhabitants would not remove at that Time, because they thought that the Country in which they dwelt was not comprehended in the Cession; and the *English* themselves must have been of the same Opinion, as they did not oblige them to acknowledge the King of *England* for their Sovereign.