

in England; tho' had it been prosecuted, the Ohio might have been settled before this, with the suffrage of the natives, and much distraction and bloodshed prevented; for in 1725 the Twightwees, of their own accord, repaired to New York and Albany to trade with the English, and to renew their former alliance. This begat a desire of reviving Spotswood's scheme, and in 1730 endeavours were used to obtain a grant from the crown of the lands on the Ohio, and proposals were made to transport large numbers of Palatines to settle them. But this attempt was again frustrated, and the project lay neglected till 1749, when it was too late to put it in execution, as the event hath discovered.

It is indeed hard to determine whether the origin of the late war ought to be attributed to the disputes concerning the boundaries of Nova Scotia, or to the old design which the French had of uniting Canada with Louisiana, in order to extirpate the British entirely out of North America. Immediately after the peace of Aix la Chapelle, they began to send troops, arms, stores, provisions, &c. to Canada; but whether they intended first to seize Nova Scotia, or the lands on the Ohio at the back of Virginia, is hard to say. Upon the nicest examination of circumstances, it would appear that Nova Scotia was the original cause of disagreement; for till the French were frustrated in their attempts there, they did not begin to hem in the British settlements, and cut off their communication with the Indians.

Britain had an undoubted right to Nova Scotia by the 12th article of the treaty of Utrecht, in which the French king ceded it to the crown of Great Britain *with its ancient boundaries*. But as the dispute went upon *what were its ancient boundaries*, it was committed at the peace of Aix la Chapelle in 1748, to the discussion of commissaries. No sooner was that peace concluded, than M. de la Galissonniere governor of Canada sent a number of French Canadians to settle at the mouth of St. John's river in Nova Scotia, where they erected two forts, and began to seize several parts of the country which were in dispute. They likewise employed emissaries to tamper with the Indians of Nova Scotia, and to excite them to harass our colonies in that province, that so