

In the mean Time the *French*, whose Policy I am sorry to Commend, have acted upon one regular System, from the Treaty of *Utrecht* to the present Time. No Change of Administration hath in the least varied the System. The Increase of their Territory, and the Diminution of our Power in *America* was the Object. Every Measure taken in that Part of the World hath contributed to the Prosecution of this End; and, it is not unseasonable to utter so Melancholy a Truth, we Ourselves have been no small Contributors.

Their Hostilities were commenced before the War, and have been uniformly carried on since the Peace. We neither availed ourselves of the War to dispossess them of our Property; nor, when we were negotiating a Peace, do we appear to have paid any Regard to a Point of the last Importance, which may involve us, sooner