[110]

groundless suggestions; but now I think we may be convinced of them, from fatal experience. They have been reckoned to be so very distant, if there was any reality in them, that they seem to have been looked upon as not worth notice; but now they are come to our doors, and make us take notice of them, whether we will or not. It was for this reason that we have been at this pains to represent their several views and designs, that we may not again be surprized by them, nor catched so unguarded against them: and shall next consider the situation they are in to accomplish them.

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SECT. III.

The situation of the French colonies, and their abilities to accomplish those designs.

The fituation of the French in North America is every way as convenient, to execute all those their schemes abovementioned, as our situation is inconvenient and disadvantageous to prevent them. They have had all those things in view for many years, have been constantly preparing themselves for those purposes, and have thereby put themselves in a situation proper to execute them; while we have never once thought of them. It was this