

signed by Mr. Dobbs; as if tending to encroach on the trade, which the French carry on with the Indians of North Canada, and to extend the British settlements in those parts, in a manner prejudicial to the rights of his most christian majesty. He has not descended to any particulars on this head, on account of the objects of the said plan not being sufficiently known in France.

But let that be as it will, it were very easy to give an entire satisfaction to the court of France, on this head, by assuring it, that this plan which has been debated on in parliament, had absolutely no other object, than to lay open to the whole nation an exclusive trade, which had been a long time engrossed by a company, that had derived its privilege from a particular charter. And this, with the sole view of extending trade in general, in these parts: and, in no ways, with an intent to enlarge the possessions of the nation, at the expence of any other people whatsoever.

But as this plan has not met with the approbation of parliament, it has been laid aside, and is now of course, out of the question: Yet, had it been executed, it does not appear, why it should afford to the court of France any pretence to complain. Inasmuch as it related only to a domestic affair of the kingdoms, viz. whether a trade carried on, a long time, to Hudson's Bay, should be continued to be carried on, exclusively, by a particular com-