

Its Situation was not only inviting, being at a small distance from Cape Breton, the cod fisheries and the mouth of the river St. Lawrence, but there was another more powerful temptation in this colony. As

and, in consequence of that, your forbidding his majesty's governor to make any alteration in the state of religion, and its ministers there, is still more extraordinary; and I must not omit upon this occasion to remark to you, that I think the letter, which the bishop of Quebec lately wrote to Mr. Mascarene concerning his intended visitation of his majesty's subjects in that government, in such terms, as shew'd he looks upon them as part of his cure of souls, and within his jurisdiction, was likewise an extraordinary attempt and can't be admitted.

Your interfering in his majesty's punishment of his subjects in Nova Scotia, inflicted for rebellious and treasonable practices against his crown, and his requiring others of them to renew their oaths of fidelity; and in a word your treating the subjects of the crown of Great Britain in that province, as if you look'd upon them as subjects of his most christian majesty, and being under his allegiance, is if possible still more surprizing; and as these attempts are manifest invasions of the undoubted right, which every prince has over his subjects, I can't but look upon them as insults upon his majesty's government.

After these attempts, Sir, upon his majesty's right of government over his subjects in Nova Scotia, I am less surprized at your encroachments upon the limits of his province, which you are pleas'd to call in your letter, "Dependencies of the government Canada."

I can't conclude without making use of this opportunity to acquaint you, that we look on fort St. Frederick at Crown Point, as an encroachment on his majesty's territories; and in case you proceed to settle the country round it, I shall esteem those settlements so too, unless that tract has been ceded to you, by the late definitive treaty at Aix la Chapelle.

I am sorry, Sir, That the first fruits of the peace on your part, have so unpromising an aspect; and beg you will be persuaded, that nothing shall be wanting in me, to preserve the good understanding, which ought to subsist between us in time of peace,

Having the honour to be,

W. Shirley.

Boston,

May 9; 1749.