

Since I began the above, I have received the Inclosed answer from Lt. Governor Belcher to mine of the 20th September, Copy of which also is here inclosed, but as it is arrived so late, and the small craft of the River will be so necessary to convey above, the Provisions we daily expect from Europe, I fear it will not be in my power, to bring up all the Acadians from those parts this year.

Indeed it does not appear to me right, either Acadians or Canadians should settle within the Gulph of St. Lawrence, for should any of its Islands be ceded to France at a peace, in order to care their Fish, an Illicit Trade very detrimental to that of Great Britain, might be perpetually carried on through that channel.

In my Report I omitted observing to your Lordship, the King has two Houses in Quebec, one in the Upper Town stiled the Castle of St. Lewis, formerly the Governor General's residence, so Tattered by the effect of our Artillery, that I have been obliged to Hire a Home for myself; the Engineers have given in an Estimate for the repairing it, which will amount to Eight Hundred Pounds; Whether the Government will chuse to be at this Expense, when a Peace is settled, is Humbly submitted. The other House belonging to the King, is the Intendant's Palace, which is indeed a noble and spacious building, but has been and is still made use of the lodge the Troops, the Barracks not being near sufficient to contain even the moderate Garrison we have at Present.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Truth and Regard

My Lord!

Your Lordship's most obedient,

and most faithful humble Servant,

J. A. MURRAY,

Right Honorable The Earl of Egremont, One of
His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.