

The PREFACE.

for their Interest, that the Spaniards were Masters of it than the French, we not having so much Reason to apprehend the same danger, either to our Colonies, Trade or Navigation, from the First, as from the Last. Tho' I'm far from admitting the Cession of it to either of them, on any Terms whatsoever, without an absolute and apparent Necessity, which, I thank GOD, we are not yet reduc'd to, nor apprehensive of.

AND I am apt to think, that Prudence and Policy, will or ought to prompt us, to keep a Ballance of Power in America, as well as nearer Home; and that as we have, for above Thirty Years past, found it our Interest to check and put a stop to the growing Power of France, and set Bounds to their Dominions here in Europe, we shall not easily be induc'd to allow them to encroach on, and deprive us of our Colonies and Plantations in America.

THE Spaniards are said to be very uneasy at the so near Neighbourhood of the French on the Meschacebe, and are perhaps more jealous of the Consequences thereof than we are, tho' not more than we ought to be; and