

It is for this that they have disputed the treaty of *Utrecht*, and invented so many quibbles and falsities to evade it ; in particular, that the cession solely concerns the *antient* limits of *Acadia*, as confined to a part of the *Peninsula*, or to the whole at most.

Is it not a very modest request to desire the possession of a river, which runs through the heart of the whole country, as *St. John's*, does from the borders of *New England* to the bay of *Fundy* ? *Louis XIV.* had too much modesty, as well as equity and desire for peace (expressed in his proposals and answers to those of *Queen Anne* *) to make such a request : a thought which none could be capable of forming, but those who would reduce the *English* pretensions in *Acadia* by the treaty of *Utrecht*, to a line of coast. It is just as reasonable as if the *English* should require possession of either the river *Rhone*, *Loir*, or *Garrone*, each of which runs through great part of *France*.

Grant them this request, and I should not wonder, if sometime hence, they should ask the *Kennebec*, *Konnektikut*, or *Albany* river. If this request was granted them, they would, in effect, gain more than is at present in dispute, that is, two countries instead of one ; and be put in possession, not only of *Nova Scotia* simply, but also of the country of *Sagadahok*, or county of *York*, which lies between it and *New England*. This might be easily effected by fortifying the river in proper places ; and from the port at its mouth, they would have it in their power to disturb our

* *Pieces justific.* art. 28, and 32. p. 341, and 383.