

is a sure sign of a very good instead of a bad soil; and accordingly we see the *French* have settled their tobacco plantations thereabouts. It is not without reason then, that our author tells us, the largest navies might be built in that country at a very small expence.

From this it appears, that even the sea coast, barren as it is, from which the whole country has been so much depreciated, is not without its advantages, and those peculiarly adapted to a trading and maritime nation. Had these sandy desarts indeed been in such a climate as *Canada*, they would have been of as little value, as many would make them here. It might be difficult indeed to settle colonies merely for these or any other productions of those poor lands: but to the westward of the *Mississipi*, the coast is much more fruitful all along the bay of *Mexico*; being watered with a great number of rivers, the banks of which are very fertile, and are covered with forests of the tallest oaks, &c. as far as to *New-Mexico*, a thing not to be seen any where else on these coasts. That coast alone will supply all the products of *North America*, and is as convenient to navigation as any part of it, without going nigh the *Mississipi*; so that it is with good reason