

And are such obscure, ambiguous, trifling passages, in one single old book, so contradictory to all others of much better authority, wrote by a fisherman in *Nova Scotia*, who tells us himself he had spent nigh forty years among the savages there, by which he was little acquainted with such literary subjects, or the way of treating them,* are these, I say, to be made authorities for princes, and laws to determine such important concerns and rights of nations!—Especially when they are so directly repugnant to all other real and unexceptionable authorities, of which we have adduced so many.

Yet it was to maintain such arguments as these, founded on those authorities alone, that the French have engaged in this war with Britain; and would endeavour to persuade all mankind of the justness of such a cause!—But surely all these their arguments on this subject must appear to be a downright insult upon the understanding and common sense of this nation, and of all mankind; as much as the whole of their proceedings upon them, since the treaty of *Aix la Chapelle*, have plainly been nothing else, but an open breach of public faith, and a manifest violation of the most

* Vid. Preface, p. 2.

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