

ticks is to overturn this Balance, by diminishing that Power, whose Weight alone can preserve it. Great Difficulties always attended the Designs of *France* when they were pursued in *Europe*; the Alarm was easily taken; all Advances were slow, and dearly bought; and after a long War, and the Waste of infinite Blood and Treasure, a Peace left their Landmarks just where they were before; one Treaty, for some few Family Honours, but no solid national Advantage, destroyed the Effect of so many prosperous Sieges and successful Battles. They had felt a Wound too in a Part, which shewed them more clearly than ever that their first Plan was ill laid.

Foiled therefore in their direct Designs upon the Liberties of *Europe*, they took a Compass, to come with the more Certainty, because less Suspicion at their purposed Point. The Way they took was by encreasing their own Strength, and lessening ours upon the Continent of *North America*. The Wealth *France* had already drawn from the *West-Indies*, and her considerable Establishments there, made her feel the Necessity of a Force upon the Continent, for turning those Establishments to the best Account, and for drawing new and greater Advantages from a Country, whose Situation destined it the Seat of the most extensive and beneficial Commerce. It was obvious, that a mighty Augmentation of naval Strength, must be the certain Consequence of Superiority in *America*; and a naval Strength must  
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