

M. de St. Ovide, who was soon informed of this new Pretension, advertised the Inhabitants what would be the Consequence, if they submitted to what was required of them. They had no Occasion for this Advice of the *French* Governor, having given an immediate Answer to the Captain General, as became them, That if he endeavoured to compel them, he would bring down the Natives upon him, who would never be forced to such an Oath of Fidelity as would deprive them of their Pastors. (b) This Answer had its Effect; *Richards* did not think proper to break with the Savages, his Neighbours, at a Time when those of *Kinibeki* were already so ill-inclin'd towards the People of *Boston*, nor to run the Hazard of seeing *Acadia* without Inhabitants; for *St. Ovide* had already concerted Measures for facilitating to the *French* a Retreat in the Island of *St. John*, where a considerable Establishment was then talked of, and even attempted. It will not be foreign to our Subject to follow the *French* Author a little farther, and give an Account of this Attempt.

After the Isle of *Cape Breton*, that of *St. John's*, which is very near it, is the largest of all those in the Gulph of *St. Laurence*, and has even this Advantage over the other, that all the Lands in it are fertile. It is about 20 Leagues in Length, and 60 in Circumference; has a safe and commodious Port; and is covered with Trees of all the most useful Kinds. No Notice, however, had been taken of this Island till after the Establishment was begun at *Cape Breton*: But then the Proximity of the two Islands suggested the Thought,

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that

(b) The true Jesuit appears in the Original of this Paragraph, more than we thought it necessary to follow in the Translation.