

neighbourhood, and considering what difficulties in case of its loss would have attended the recovery of it by arms or negotiation, together with the losses which the nation has sustained in the fishery otherways, we may be excited to take the best care for the preservation and improvement of what is left.

In the beginning of the year 1749 the governor of *Canada* A. D. 1749. and the bishop of *Quebec* took fresh measures utterly incompatible with his *Britannick* majestys sovereignty over *Nova Scotia*, of which the following copy of part of a letter from Mr. *Shirley* to the marquis *de la Gallifonier*, dated at *Boston* the 9th of *May* 1749, will give the best information within my power.

“ Sir,

“ Two days ago I received from Mr. *Mascarene* a copy of
 “ your letter to him, dated at *Quebec* the 15th of *January*,
 “ wherein, among other demands, you call upon him to acquaint you whether he intends to comprehend the *Abenaki*
 “ *Indians* in the peace, without requiring any kind of submission from them; and desire that in such case he would
 “ engage me to let them resetttle in their village, and their
 “ missionaries remain there with them unmolested, as they
 “ did before the war; observing to him that those *Indians*
 “ entered into the war only as your allies, and therefore when
 “ the war was finished with you it ought to be so with regard to them; and you proceed to say, Sir, that if they
 “ thought otherwise in *New England* you shall be obliged to
 “ assist those *Indians*, intimating that it is of importance to
 “ the safety and tranquillity of the frontiers of the *Massachusetts Bay* that you should have a speedy and positive
 “ answer, and that you shall not be surprized if the *Indians*
 “ should proceed to acts of violence.”

“ To this, Sir, which is the fourth demand in your letter,
 “ Mr. *Mascarene* having referred you to me upon it, I shall
 “ comply with your request in giving as speedy and positive
 “ an answer as may be.”