

of Provision to our *northern Colonies*; whereby we were *this Spring* prepared to supply so great an Armament: And at the same Time cut short the Crops in *Canada* and the *French West India Islands*, whereby 'twas apprehended that Those at *Cape-Breton* were considerably *straiten'd*, and that both the *Canada-French* and *Indians* were hindered the last Year from troubling our *inland Borders*.

5. By our Accounts of the Uneasiness of the *Switzers* There, for want of Pay and Provision; and the Call and Wants of the *East and West India Fleet* in the *Fall* of the Year, and their Supplies with Men and Victuals, if not Ammunition; 'twas represented, the remaining *French* were further *weakened*; and we were the more encouraged. And 'twas further remarkable, that their *Store Ships* from *France* in the *Fall* came so late on their Coast, and the Winter There set in so early and fierce, as to keep them out of their Harbour and drive them off to *Martinico*.

6. From the sanguine Representations made by our returned Captives, of the Easiness of our taking the Place by an early Surprizal before any Help could come, either from *France* or *Canada*; GOD was pleased to lead our Governor, vigilant and active for our Safety and Welfare, into the Project: And early forming the Scheme; in the most timely Season, in the midst of Winter, when our Intercourse abroad was sealed up, to move and press it on the *General Assembly*; and after, in convenient Time, on our *neighbouring Governments*; and with wonderous Resolution, Circumspection and Assiduity to pursue the same.

7. Tho' when the Affair was first propos'd to the *General Court*, the Difficulties seem'd so great, and the Expence so sinking to this poor People, that they saw no Light to venture without a powerful, previous Help from *England*; yet upon further Representations, that the Season would likely be lost for ever, &c. the Affair was unexpectedly reconsider'd: And the sovereign GOD so over-rul'd the Absence of divers worthy Representatives, who judged it too vast an Undertaking for us; that 'tis said the *final Resolution* for it on *Jan. 25.* was just carried but by *one Majority*: And even that and other Votes had been lost, if the superior Greatness of the Expence had been then imagined; it soon abundantly exceeding their Expectations.