

A Copy of a Letter from Quebec, in Canada, to a
P. M. in France, dated October 11. 1747.

GREAT SIR,

BEING resident for some Years past in this remote Part of the World, and my chief Employ being to visit the several Nations of *Indians*, in order to establish them in the *Catholic* Religion, which makes them loyal Subjects to his most christian majesty our royal master; and agreeable to your Instructions, great Sir, I have taken Pains to settle a Correspondence with some of our Friends among the *Acadians*, who have given me a large Account of the several Provinces, Cities, Towns, and Village, along the Sea Coast, *from South Carolina to New-foundland*. A particular Information would be incredible to you in *France*, that in one Century should spring out of a barren Wilderness, such a Number of fine large Cities, Towns, and Villages, peopled in so prodigious a Manner, as to amount to many 100,000 Inhabitants; and their Trade in Navigation is so surprizingly large, that will surmount your Belief, when I tell you, That their Shipping large and small, is so numerous, as to amount to several 1000 Sail, that they even cover the Seas, and carry on Trade to almost all Parts of the World; and by the best and most authentic Accounts I have received, the Privateers fitted out of *North-America*, *viz.* *Boston*, *New-York*, *New-Hampshire*, and the several Sea Port Towns, did us more Damage this Year, by distressing our Trade, and taking our Treasures coming from our Sugar Plantations, than all the *English* Men of War in the *American* Seas. The Privateers were so numerous, and of such Force, from 20 to 30 Guns, that would block up our Harbours, and take a Fleet of Ships at once, richly laden with Plantation Produce, besides Silver and Gold in Abundance. The Inhabitants of *North-America* are the Spirit and Blood of old *John Cromwell*; they are of the Race of Puritans that fled into *New-England* in the Time of Persecution, and they maintain an invincible Hatred against the *Romish* Religion; and their Resolution and undaunted Courage is such, that whatever they undertake by Sea or Land against us, they execute with such Violence, that we dread more of them, more than 5000 hired Soldiers from *Old-England*. Witness that unparalleled Conquest of our *Gen. - Breton*.