

In the congress of Utrecht when the French demanded Cape Breton island, it was proposed, that it should lie in common for the use of the British and French fishery, without any settlements or forts, but open; the French would have acquiesced; but in this, as in some other articles, our abandoned wicked ministry of that time gave the French nation more than they really expected, viz. the exclusive property and dominion of the island, with the liberty of fortifying. It is generally thought, that by next peace Louisbourg will be demolished, and the island laid open and in common to both nations: It is certain, that the duke D'Anville had an instruction, if he succeeded in recovering Louisbourg, to demolish it.

As this was a private adventure, upon surrender, we might have demolished it soon, and converted the artillery, other warlike stores, and many other valuable things, to the use and benefit of the New England colonies concerned, and so have put an end to a great accruing charge: The charge of maintaining a garrison there with men, provisions, warlike stores, and repairs in time of peace, will be a great and unprofitable article of national expence, and as both nations are much in debt, neither of them will incline to be at the charge, but agree to demolish it. As Great Britain are a small people, but at present masters at sea, their game is to procure all the advantages of an extensive commerce; we are not capable of peopling and maintaining land-acquirements: Perhaps the promoters of this very popular adventure do not receive the sincere thanks of the ministry or managers at the court of Great Britain (this may be the reason of the remoras in our soliciting a * reim-

* Perhaps our agent or agents at home (who are in the nature of attorneys for the province or corporation) to ingratiate themselves with our legislature, have represented the affair wrong, which has induced them, in quality of a colony legislature, to count their chickens before they are hatched, and in some sense, to prescribe to the sovereign legislature of Great Britain, concerning the disposition of