

S E C T. II.

The views and designs of the French in America.

THE many unlimited views and designs of the French in America, the means of accomplishing them, and our methods to prevent them, can never be unworthy the regard and attention of this nation, nor appear improper or unseasonable for us to consider, and far less at this time. They have laid down a plan and system of affairs there, as well as in Europe; have it always in view, and act by it in every thing they undertake; by which they give such perpetual and constant disturbances to this nation, which only stands in their way, against an universal rule and dominion in all parts of America.

The great view and aim of the French, especially since the treaty of Utrecht, seems to be, to extend their trade and commerce, and thereby to gain a naval power. They saw in the wars preceding that treaty, what a figure the maritime powers made by these means, by which they were able to give such a considerable opposition to the ambitious views of France in all parts of Europe; which the French had no way to prevent, but to supplant them in their trade and commerce, and thereby to gain that source of power, which they seemed only to want, to carry every point they