

*A LETTER published in the New-York Mercury, January 5, 1756.*

*of his most Christian Majesty. For, besides the Colouring in the Map, the Author in a Pamphlet, or Analysis, which accompanies it, tells us, that "the French being in Possession of Fort Frontenac, at the Peace of Ryswick, " which they attained during their War with the Confederates, gives them an " undoubted Title to the Acquisition of the North-west Side of St. Lawrence " River, from thence to their Settlement at Montreal. But the Confederates " still preserved their Right to the other Side, fully to Lake St. Francis, " leaving the Rest to Montreal as a Boundary."*

*This Pamphlet is intitled, Geographical, Historical, and POLITICAL Essays, &c. and doubtless the French King is much obliged to the Author, for this reasonable Specimen of his Politics. For thousands who observe this Passage in his Analysis, may take the Doctrine for an incontestable Truth, and thro' an Indolence, common to most Men, spare themselves the Trouble of examining the Treaty of Ryswick, which would give the Inquirer as indifferent an Opinion of Mr. Evans's Talent at Reasoning, as we ought to have of this his POLITICAL Tenet. All that the Treaty contains, that can be thought to be in the least Degree applicable to the Matter now under Consideration, is in the VIIIth Article, which is in these Words, "That the most Christian King shall restore to the " King of Great-Britain, all Countries, Islands, Ports, and Colonies, where- " soever situated, which the English did possess before the Declaration of the " present War : And in like Manner the King of Great-Britain shall restore " to the most Christian King, all Countries, Islands, Ports, and Colonies, where- " soever situated, which the French did possess before the said Declaration of " War : And this Restitution shall be made on both Sides, within the Space of " six Months, or sooner, if it can be done."*

*Now upon the Supposition, that this Treaty has any Relation to the present Debate, and admitting, that the French attained the Fort at Frontenac during the War, the most obvious Conclusion is, that they ought by Virtue of this Treaty, to have restored it to the British Crown ; and this Consequence appears to me so natural and necessary, that Mr. Evans, or the Gentleman who suggested this Hint to him, is under the strongest Obligations to his Majesty, and the Public, to make a Declaration of his Inducements to advance this extraordinary Doctrine, especially at such a Juncture as the present. Had Mr. Evans's Conclusion been founded upon a long Thread of Argument, all the World would in Charity suppose that he had fallen into an Error thro' Inattention ; but to publish a Map, and assert in Print, in the most positive Terms, that the King of France has an undoubted Title to the very Lands, for the regaining of which his Majesty is now in Arms, and to found that Title upon a solemn Treaty, and yet suppress the Publication of the Articles relating to it ; is a Piece of Conduct, for which I confess myself at a Loss to account. Certainly it has a most mischievous Tendency. The Bulk of Mankind are weak enough, to repose an implicit Faith in every Thing asserted in Print ; and few but will take Mr. Evans's Word that Frontenac belongs to the French, especially as it is so strongly asserted, with a Reference to a Treaty for Proof, which one would presume must be plain, simple and express.*

*Should*