

of that of the *French*; and that the same Advantages, which presented for effecting this early in the Spring, could not be expected afterwards in the Course of the War, he thought it incumbent on him to avail himself of that Opportunity for promoting the *National* Interests as well as those of the *Northern* Colonies; which must have been lost, if he had waited till he could have received his Majesty's Pleasure thereupon.

The Subject of the Assembly's Deliberations, and the Result of them, notwithstanding the Care taken to keep them secret, had so far transpired, that *Marblehead*, the principal fishing Town, and *Boston* the chief trading Town and Metropolis of the Province had determined to petition the General Court to have the proposed Expedition set on foot; and the Governor thereupon moved the Assembly in two other Messages to resume the Consideration of this Enterprize; and the more effectually to induce them to come into it, recommended to them to examine the Persons, from whom he had received his Intelligence, concerning the Practicableness of it.

The Assembly immediately entered into a second Consideration of the Affair, and after spending three Days more in examining the Persons, whom the Governor referred them to, with the closest Attention, came to the following Resolves.

“ That it was incumbent upon the *Massachusetts* Government to embrace the favourable

“ Oppor-