

“ *France* by the 13th article of the said treaty. And without
 “ that it be permitted to the subjects of the crown of *France*
 “ to fish in the seas, bays, and other places within thirty
 “ leagues distance South East of the coasts of the said *Nova*
 “ *Scotia* or *Acadia*, beginning from the said island of *Sable*
 “ inclusively, and stretching along to the South West [*b*].”

When a river divides the dominions of princes, a line conceived to pass along the middle of it is the true limit of each dominion, in all cases wherein special rights do not intervene. The grant made by king *James* to Sir *William Alexander* comprehended all the rivers, islands and seas lying near or within 6 leagues of the lands of the continent by him granted, on the West, North, and East parts thereof; yet, to say nothing of any other part, the northern boundary of the *British* dominion claimed by the *British* commissaries includes neither such part of the river *Canada*, or *St. Laurence* as belonged to the crown of *Great Britain* by force of the general rules of sovereignty and propriety taking place between princes in such cases, nor the 6 leagues in breadth of that river granted by the charter of king *James*; on the contrary the dominion claimed is expressly bounded on the North by the river of *St. Laurence*, going along the South side of it to cape *Rosiers*.

This claim, saving the islands specially reserved to *France*, comprised all the lands which under the name of *Acadia* were in 1670 delivered up by *Charles II* to *Lewis XIV*, pursuant to the treaty of *Breda*, and no other lands; nevertheless the *French* commissaries by their memorial of the 21st of *September* 1750 declared, “ That it resulted from the treaty, 1st, That
 “ *Annapolis* was not comprised in the ancient limits of *Acadia*,
 “ which was also conformable to the most ancient descriptions of the country, and consequently ancient *Acadia* contained only part of the peninsula of that name. 2^{dly}, That
 “ the island of *Canso* being situated in one of the mouths of
 “ the gulph of *St. Laurence* belonged to *France*. 3^{dly}, That

[*b*] Memorials of the *English* commissaries, &c. p. 7. 9.