

thing against the Service of the Crown of *England*; that they enjoy'd the same Prerogatives they had enjoy'd under their natural Sovereign; that they had their Catholic Priests, and the free Exercise of their Religion; and that they kept up a kind of Correspondence with *Isle Royale*.

He was told, that the Government had thought proper to grant them all this, to prevent their retiring either into *Canada*, or *Isle Royale*, as they were permitted to do in virtue of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and even to carry off their moveable, and sell their immoveable Effects; that by this means the Charge of sending over a new Colony had been saved, which must otherwise have been done, in order to replace this; and that moreover it would have been difficult to find Inhabitants so laborious and industrious as these; That as to the rest, they had not abused the Indulgence, and that it was owing to them that the Savages, in Alliance with *France*, had for some Time left the *English* in Repose.

The Captain General either did not taste these Reasons, or believing that Time could change the Nature of Things, concluded he might, without any Risk put the *French* upon the same Footing as the *English*. He begun by forbidding them all Commerce with *Isle Royale*, and afterwards let them know, that he gave them but four Months to take (a) the Oath of Fidelity to the King of *England*, as Subjects ought to do to their Sovereign.

M. de

(a) Our *French* Author is probably mistaken here, and means the Oath of Abjuration, instead of the Oath of Allegiance, which no People certainly would refuse to a Government they chose to live under, and were protected by: Nor indeed is it probable they would have been left so quiet as he describes them, if they had refused this latter Oath.