

THE

PREFACE.

Having flatter'd my self with the vain hopes of retrieving the King of France's favour, before the Declaration of this War; I was so far from thinking to put these Letters, and Memoirs, to the Press; that I design'd to have committed 'em to the flames, if that Monarch had done me the honour of reinstating me in my former Places, with the good leave of Messieurs de Pontchartrain, * the Father and the Son. 'Twas with that view that I neglected to put 'em in such a dress as might now be wish'd for, for the satisfaction of the Reader that gives himself the trouble to peruse 'em.

* The one Chancellor of France, and the other Secretary of State: Both of 'em vastly rich.

Between the fifteenth and sixteenth year of my Age I went to Canada, and there took care to keep up a constant Correspondence by Letters with an old Relation, who had required of me a Narrative of the Occurrences of that Country, upon the account of the yearly assistance he gave me. 'Tis these very Letters that make the greatest part of the first Volume. They contain an account of all that pass'd between the English, the French, the Iroquese,