336 A SUMMARY, HISTORICAL and POLITICAL, &c. bourg, being in our neighbourhood, an event recent and very memorable. I shall endeavour to relate it with exactness and impartiality. By ascribing every step of itto Providence, I hope it will not be construed as detracting from the merits of the country of New-England, the place of my abode or home. The motto may be Audates · fortuna juvat, and with good propriety may be termed Dignus vindice nodus, and without imputation of cant, be ascribed to some extraordinary interposition of Providence in our favour: Governor Shirley in a speech obferves, that " fcarce fuch an instance is to be found in history:" A colonel in this expedition gave it this turn, "that if the French had not given up Louisbourg, we might have endeavoured to storm it with the same pro. spect of success, as the devils might have stormed Hea. ven." The annual convention of the New-England mi. nisters, in their address to the KING, call it, "The wonderful fuccess GOD has given your American for. ces:" A clergyman from London writes, " This prof. perous event can hardly be afcribed to anything thort of an interpolition from Above, truly uncommon and extraordinary." These expressions of the Governor's, &c. ought not to be conftrued as derogating from the most bold adventure of the New-Englanders.

The reduction of Louisbourg was much above our capacity; in short, if any one circumstance had takens wrong turn on our side, and if any one circumstance had not taken a wrong turn on the French side, the expedition must have miscarried, and our forces would have returned with shame, and an inextricable loss to the province; as this was a private or corporation adventure without any orders from the court of Great Britain, the charges would not have been reimbursed by the parliament; and the people of New-England from generation to generation would have cursed the advise and promoters of this unaccountably rash adventure.

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