

all their fishery will be usurped by the enemy, and the colony itself be encroached upon, and insulted, in the same manner, as was done immediately after the late treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. Besides, should they fortify this island, and they doubtless would, it would in a time of war be a great eye-sore to our harbour of Halifax; and though it has not either port or harbour at present, yet its situation and coast will admit of its becoming a nest of privateers to the great detriment of our trade. The only way to deal with the French nation is not to permit them to have an inch of ground near any of our North American settlements. In a word, it is the only way we can act with safety to ourselves; and if this was not the sense of the ministry when they demolished Louisbourg, what was it demolished for? Therefore Sable ought by all means to remain in its present condition. The French are to enjoy, without this island, a more extensive branch of the fishery, with its conveniences, than they ought. It was said when M. Bussy was here, that nothing less than *all* North America, and the *whole* American fishery, would satisfy the people of this nation for the injuries they have received. Have we since that time changed our inhabitants or our opinions?—I hope neither.

*Martinico,*