

Should there happen a *French* War, the best Step we could take towards rooting them out of *America*, would be, in the first Place, to take *Canada*; which I make no Question might be done, if attempted in a proper Manner, and at a right Season of the Year.

Had Sir *Hovenden Walker* succeeded when he was sent upon that Expedition, it would undoubtedly have been of great Advantage to us; for at that Time the *French* were not one Tenth Part so numerous as now, that they have intermarried with the Natives, and over-run the whole Country, so that it is become a Matter of infinite Difficulty to root them quite out of their Possessions and Trade in *America*.

I look upon Sir *Hovenden Walker's* Miscarriage in his Expedition, to be owing to this; that he did not arrive there 'till the latter End of *August*, at which Time he ought to have been returning: and whenever a War happens again with *France*, should it be thought proper to attempt the taking of *Canada*, we ought to be in the River of St. *Lawrence* by the first Day of *June* at the farthest; and as to the Difficulties Sir *Hovenden* complained of, from the Uncertainty of the Currents, Fogs, &c. they are such as we now make no account of conquering in *Hudson's* Bay and Straits, where they are certainly greater. I can set the Currents and Tides in any Weather, even under a Mainfail in a Storm of Wind, so as to discover both how fast, and upon what Point of the Compass it sets; and then as to observing the Latitude in foggy Seasons, I have seldom mis'd two Days together, if it be tolerable smooth Water, as you'll find in our Journals. Now I apprehend that the Navigation in the River St. *Lawrence* must be attended with much fewer Inconveniencies, than in *Hudson's* Straits, and those Coasts

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