

it. These two Nations have been frequently set at Variance by the Artifices of the *French*, and much weakened thereby; but they still make up a Number of between 5 and 6000 Gun-men.

Another Instance of the *Malice* wherewith the *French* have inspired their *Indians* against the *English*, appears by a Letter dated at *Boston*, *May 28*, that a Vessel from *Providence* in *New England* bound for *Louisburgh*, was lately cast away on the *Cape Sable* Shore; the Men were saved and taken up by Captain *Peunetter*, in a Schooner belonging to *Annapolis Royal*, who put into *St. Peter* on *Cape Breton*; but while he was there he was boarded by a Number of *Indians*, who killed the Captain and all the People except the Pilot, who was a *Frenchman*, afterwards carried the Scalps in Triumph to *Louisburgh*.

It was not long before the *French* changed their Notes, and gave the Governor to understand, how little Confidence he ought to put in their pretended Friendship; as appears from the following Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in *Nova Scotia* to a Merchant in *London*.

“ When the Fleet arrived here last Summer, it was reported that the *French* Governor of *Canada* had posted a Detachment, consisting of 60 regular Troops, on *St. John's* River, on the North Side of the Bay of *Fundy*, and in the Heart of this Province. This was the more easily credited, as the Ramparts of an old Fort there, with a very little Expence, might have been repaired into a defensible Fort. Upon a seeming Confirmation of this Report, Captain *Rous*, in the *Albany* Sloop of War, was sent thither to know the Truth of it; and with Orders, as is supposed, to dispossess them. On his Return we found that the *French* had attempted nothing near the Mouth of the River; but that they were about to secure themselves at some considerable Distance from it, at a Place which the *French* Governor claimed as a Southern Boundary of *Canada* or *New France*. This being in a Country inhabited by *Indians*, and the Navigation of the River being unknown to most of the *English*, nothing further could then be done.

In *September* or *October* following, *Monf. Le Corne*, an experienced *French* Officer, at the Head of 70 regular Troops, and a Party of *Canada* Irregulars, was sent to take Post at the Isthmus of *Chignecto*, being about 40