

might have wrought on some of them by his Persuasions, upon others by Menaces, was uncertain; but if he had succeeded, it must have hazarded the Loss of the whole Province by the ensuing Spring: To counteract therefore Mr. *De Ramsay* and frustrate his Designs, the *Massachusetts Governor* determined, though the Winter was then far advanced, to attempt driving him out of *Minas*, as soon as a fresh Recruit of Troops could be sent to *Annapolis Royal*.

In the mean time, to prevent him from making any Progress in gaining over the Inhabitants, he immediately transmitted from *Boston* to Governor *Mascarene* a Number of printed Copies of a Declaration translated into *French*, and signed by himself, to be dispersed throughout the Districts of *Minas* and *Annapolis River*; wherein he assured the Deputies and Inhabitants, “ that such of them  
 “ as should remain firm in their Allegiance to  
 “ his Majesty should be protected in the Possession of their Lands and just Rights, according to the Treaty of *Utrecht*; letting  
 “ them know at the same time, that he should  
 “ very soon send a sufficient Force to *Minas* to  
 “ remove Mr. *De Ramsay* and his Party from  
 “ thence, and protect them from the Insults  
 “ of the *French* and their *Indians*; and in particular assuring them, that the King’s Soldiers  
 “ should not live upon free Quarter, nor be  
 “ suffered to commit Acts of Violence or Marring among them, but that they should  
 “ be