iv F The PREFACE.

enquired into, the clearer and brighter they will appear.

In describing of Cape Breton, I chose to use the very Words of Pere Charlevoix, and his Auborities, least it might be objected that I had represented Places and Things more favourably than they are in Reality. The General Reputation of that Author, for Exactness and Veracity, adds no small Weight to that Part of this Discourse; at the same time that it indemnifies me of all Mistakes or Falsehoods advanced by him. I have only extracted such Parts of his History as were most necessary to my Purpose; and even omitted many, which might have enlarged and embellished this Performance, merely for the sake of bringing the Whole into as narrow a Compass as might be.

I THOUGHT it, however, necessary and proper to introduce the Main Point, by some Observations, leading more easily and naturally to it. For this Reason it is, that I have begun by shewing, in general, the Title which the European Nations have to their Possissions in America: And, as that Affair turns, or depends chiefly upon the

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