

lars to Louisiana; and what numbers they have sent since the commencement of the present war, sufficiently appears from the captures we have made of their ships bound to these parts, most of which were freighted with soldiers and warlike stores.

As we have examined Canada on the principle of security, it may be expected, that the same should be done with regard to Louisiana; and, in so doing, Sir, I believe every thing will be found suitable to our desires. Suppose that, upon the entire cession of the latter to us, we restore Canada to the French, and confine them to the west within the River Utawawa and Lake Abitibis, and to the south within Lake Champlain, the proper and legal boundary between the French colonies and ours; or, even suppose we only confine them generally within the Great Lakes, will it not be a barrier infinitely advantageous to us? Will not such a frontier properly protected give us the whole command over the numerous tribes of Indians, and secure us much the greatest share of the fur trade, and from all apprehensions of future encroachments? Can we then entertain the least apprehensions from the French "at Montreal and the "Three Rivers?" Can they "cross Champlain Lake, "and attack Crown-Point*" without first taking Nut Island, a place whose natural situation gives room to think it may be made one of the strongest fortresses in America? If we kept possession of Nut Island could the French have any vessels on the Lake? Could they transport them over land from the River St. Laurence,

* Letter to two Great Men.