

I entirely agree with you, in thinking the greatest Part of *North America* preferable, in many Respects, to *Great-Britain*; and cannot but imagine those fine Lines of *Somerville* very applicable to that Part of the World:

*On whose luxuriant Banks, Flow'rs of all Hues
Start up spontaneous, and the teeming Soil
With basty Shoots, prevents its Owner's Pray'rs.*

But I can by no means consent to conclude with you, that nothing can secure *Britain* against the revolting of *North America*, but the *French* keeping some Footing there, to be a Check upon them. Are not the present Inhabitants of those Colonies either *British* born, or the Descendants of *British* Subjects? Do they not enjoy in every Respect, as extensively as we ourselves do in *Europe*, truly *British* Liberty? Is not their Trade supported, their Commerce increased, by *British* Subjects? Are not their Forts, in Time of War, supplied by *British* Soldiers, their Coasts defended by *British* Men of War? Can, therefore, any Addition to their Territories, become the Means of a general Revolt? They surely have nothing to dread so much, as the Intrigues of *French* Policy; nor need *Britain* ever fear to lose her Settlements in *North America*, unless she prepares herself the Way for it, by restoring *Canada* again to the *French*.

But