

old fort there, with a very little expence, might have been repaired into a defensible fort. Upon a seeming confirmation of this report, Capt. *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 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 farther 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 leagues eastward of that river, and of the extent of a line they claim, from lake *Champlain* to the westward on the back of *New England*, to the gulph of *St Lawrence*. To this place the *Indians* resorted, to the number of 300; who fixing here their head quarters, made several incursions upon the peninsula since; but have seldom done any mischief.

As the *Nova Scotia French* in that part of the province are the most disaffected of any, and have always behaved with contempt to the *British* government, tho' possessed of a very fine country, Governor *Cornwallis*, who had indulged them in a long term of deliberation in regard to the taking the oaths to his majesty, to no purpose, sent a strong party, consisting of near 500 troops and rangers (to take possession of *Chignecto*, and to break up the rendezvous of the *French* and *Indians*) commanded by Major *Lawrence* of *Warburton's* regiment.

The *Albany* sloop, and several sloops and ichooners, were sent round to *Minas*, where the forces embarked on the 20th of *April*, and arriving safe, landed at *Chignecto* the 23d. On their approach to the town, which consisted of about 140 houses and two churches, the *Indians*, probably induced by the *French* commandant, reduced the whole to ashes in a few hours, and the inhabitants crossing the river, threw themselves under his protection, on what they call the *French* side of the line. The reason assigned for their burning the town is, that it stood on ground they pleased at present to call *English*.

Extract of a Letter from a Person of note in Nova Scotia, communicated to the Publick by a Merchant, to supply the defects and errors of other accounts.

WHEN the fleet from England arrived here last summer, it was reported that the *French* governor of *Canada* had posted a detachment, consisting of an officer and sixty regular troops, at *St John's* river on the north side of the bay of *Fundy*, and in the heart of this province; This was more easily credited, as the ramparts of an

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