

*lish* Colonies; this not only makes them Masters of the *Furr* Trade, but will in Time put it in their Power to furnish *France* and the *West-Indies* with all Sorts of Naval Stores, Ships, Iron, Hemp, Flax, and every thing else they are in Want of that is produced in *North America*.

I am sensible those Parts of *New France* that lie in the most Northern Latitudes, are not likely to produce many of those Articles; but as they claim a Tract of Land of vast Extent, *viz.* from *New Orleans* on the South, to the Latitude of *sixty Degrees* North, which is above *six hundred* Leagues; and in Breadth from the Streights of *Bellisle* in Longitude *fifty-seven* West, to the Lake *De Bois*, is not less than *six hundred* Leagues from East to West, every thing is to be found in it that the *English* Colonies can boast of.

Thus the *French* have artfully extended their Lines within our Colonies, not only with a Design to cut off our Communication, and trade with the Natives, but to croud such of them into the Sea, as are too weak to make a Resistance, and, finally, to master the whole Continent.

This is not an Event that may seem practicable in an Age, but yet the Continuance of the same Zeal and Care in promoting their Settlements for thirty Years to come, which has so manifestly evinced itself for thirty Years past, would render it no difficult Undertaking; besides, the ambitious Views of *France* leave no room to doubt, but they will attempt what their Interest so evidently calls for; it is beyond Dispute that their Proceedings on this Plan will soon put it in their Power; the Possession of *Nova Scotia* only for twenty Years in Peace or War, would be no inconsiderable Means of effecting it.

Should the *British* Colonies be neglected, or not equally countenanced with the *French*, or to make it worse, should an unseasonable and groundless Jealousy be the Means of checking their Growth, and discouraging their Settlements, whilst the *French* are striving with all their Might to cherish theirs, and spare neither Art, Labour nor Expence to make them considerable, surely no one can doubt but the Event must prove fatal to us.

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