

lakes of Canada, to the extent of 1300 miles. In short, it prevents or secures the junction of the two french colonies in Canada and Louisiana; laid our colonies open to the incursions both of the french and their indians, whilst it was in their hands; and secures them from both, if in our possession.

As to those immense lakes, which are all in a manner commanded by this fort, the reader need only cast his eyes on a map of north America, to be convinced of their importance. They afford by far the most noble and extensive inland navigation in the world. Whoever is the master of them must, sooner or later, command that whole continent. They are all surrounded by a fine and fruitful country, in a temperate and pleasant climate. The day may possibly come, when this noble country, which one would think is calculated for universal empire, will sufficiently display its own importance.

The affairs of Great Britain in Europe, were equally glorious; the spirit of the nation was now accustomed to success, which diffused a general joy over the whole kingdom, the more just, as it was well founded. The parliament, the ministry, and every order of the people, vied with each other in promoting the interest of their country. What proved a great spur to this unanimity, was the vast preparations that were making in all the ports of France, with design to invade Great Britain. Three different embarkations were to be undertaken. M. Thurot, who had been so active in the command of a french privateer, the marshal de Belleisle, in destroying the english trade, was to command a small squadron of royal ships, and several transports, from Dunkirk, which were intended against Scotland. Great preparations were making in the ports of Normandy, for a second embarkation against England, in flat bottomed boats of a new construction, many of which, had been built for that purpose. The third expedition, which was imagined