

Cape Breton and Louisburg. 11

The houses in Louisburg are almost all of wood. The stone ones have been built at the king's expence, and are designed for the accommodation of the troops and the officers. When the English were masters of the town in 1745, they erected very considerable caserns. The French were obliged to transport all the materials of the stone-buildings, as well as of their other works, from Europe.

There is hardly a settlement that has been attended with greater expence to the French nation than this of Louisburg. It is certain that they have laid out above thirty millions of livres, though the place does not seem to have been productive of any great advantage: yet, so cogent were the motives which induced them to put this scheme into execution, that the reservation of Louisburg will be always considered as an object of too great importance not to sacrifice every thing to it.

Cape Breton protects the whole French trade of North America, and is of equal consequence in regard to their commerce in