

ship, in case I should happen to be taken by any of the rebel privateers at Canceau; and as the inhabitants of this place gave me to understand, that the people of Canceau were very much disaffected to government, I took every precaution to disguise the appearance of an officer.

We proceeded in our canoe, on the 26th, to the point of Isle Madame; intending to cross the great passage of Canceau. This passage is called the Gut of Canceau, from an Acadian settlement of that name on the continent; and separates the Island of Cape Breton from Acadia, or, as it is now called by the English, Nova Scotia. The island of Madame lies in the middle of the gut, but rather nearer to Cape Breton than to the main; and the passage to this island is called the Small, that from the island to Canceau, the Great Passage. On making the point of Isle Madame, we found that there was still a great quantity of floating ice in the Great Passage, and, not thinking it prudent to venture in our frail vessel amongst it,