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Consequence. I believe too their Learning was increased by some Letters writ to them  
some time since intimating that if M<sup>r</sup> Hanbury had not prevented it you  
would have got M<sup>r</sup> Darnai appointed to a Seat in the Council. for  
my part I have not heard but the Papists behave themselves peaceably  
and as good Subjects, They are I imagine about one twelfth of the People  
many of them are Men of pretty considerable Fortunes, I conceive their  
Numbers do not increase tho I have reason to think the greater part of  
the Germans which are imported profess that Religion: As the Lower  
House first resolved that all the Penal Laws mentioned in the Toleration  
Act are in force within this Province, tho some of them have been  
entirely & others in part repealed by later Acts of Parliament, I declined  
granting the Request in the Conclusion of their Address lest the Courts  
should govern themselves in some sort by the Resolve of the Lower House  
of Assembly & a very Prosecution should ensue. This part of my Conduct  
will not I hope be disapproved of by his Lordship or yourself, I hope you  
will think that Nothing has been left undone to bring the Assembly to  
Reason & Temper tho our Endeavours have failed of Success. A Bill for  
an Agent was sent to the Upper House but immediately rejected. I  
God's Monr informs me that all his Endeavours have proved equally  
unsuccessful & that he cannot think of meeting the Assembly of that  
Province again unless some Reformation be first made in their Constitution  
- We are advised from the Northern Gov<sup>t</sup> that the French Fleet consisting  
of 6 Men of War & 9 large Transports with 5000 Land Forces on board  
are in the Harbour of Louisburg, & that Admiral Boscawen lies before  
that Town with 13 Capital Ships. God's Dinuridie also informs me  
that two parties of Indians & French amounting together to about 100  
Men have been seen in the Frontier Counties where they have destroyed  
9 Families & plundered & burnt their Habitations. He acquaints me too  
that the General Assembly of that Gov<sup>t</sup> have granted £10000 more for  
the Service of the Expedition to be raised by a Land Tax of 15<sup>s</sup> pro Acre,  
12<sup>s</sup> on every Taxable Negroe, & 10<sup>s</sup> pro Ct on Negroes imported; they have also impow-  
ered the Governor to raise 2200 Men for the Protection of their Frontiers ag<sup>t</sup>  
the Incursions & Ravages of the French & Indians & he is raising two Com-