

And French are depending. undetermined, or at least
the determination not known in the Plantations.

This Government have lately erected a Trading house
with a Fortification and settled a Garrison at Casco Bay, for
accommodating of Trade with the Indians and by kind
of usage and treatment of them therein ^{to} oblige them
and to divert their conversation and commerce with
the French, and have likewise made Provision for
Trade with them at Saco Fort and other places, and
thereby means of their Drawings thither, to gain the
advantage for Instructing of them in the true Christian
Religion. To which end two English Ministers are sent
to reside in the Eastern parts, one at the Fort at Saco and
the other at Casco Fort.

I am also credibly Informed That the French in Nova
Scotia or Acadie have slighted their Fortification at
the River St. Johns, and are removed to Port Royal, where
they are Fortifying and settling a strong Garrison ~~there~~,
having Artillery and Soldiers sent from France this
year for that purpose. And are likewise about to settle
a Garrison at the River St. Georges; and possibly think
to make encroachments further Westward into his Maj.
Territory even as far as the River of Kennebeck, where
they have lately made pretensions, tho' altogether ground-
less and without any shew of reason or Justice;
however hereby they will ~~they will~~ strengthen and
confirm the Indians in their Interests, and have the
Command over them, and annoy our Fishery; unless
a stop be put thereto, by an adjustment and Settlement
of the boundary; the which I thought necessary for
his Maj. Service to lay before y^r Lord.

Having nothing further to give y^r Lord the
trouble

Trouble of at present. I am, with all imaginable Respect.

Rt Hon.

Y^r Lord.

Most humble and Obedient
Servant.

Wm Stoughton

Lord Com^{rs} of the Council for Trade &c