

of all the power, perfidy and stratagem of the French, and even of the devil himself, should he think fit to join them. I am, Sir, &c. &c.

A. D.
1754.

This seasonable and sensible representation, of the danger and importance of our American plantations, deserves a serious attention, as it contains many interesting remarks concerning the value of those provinces to the mother-country; the means of preserving and improving them, and the hazard this nation runs by every neglect to drive off encroachments, and by any composition or division of the lands behind those settlements; which were daily extending their limits, especially into the fertile and delightful country of the Twightees, inhabiting the plains on the Ohio; by a company of merchants at London. Who have obtained a grant from the crown to settle that tract of land under the protection of Great Britain, with an exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians on the banks of the river Ohio.

The Ohio
company
established
with an
exclusive
right.

This grant was made soon after the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle: and it no sooner transpired, than the French Governor of Canada wrote to the Governors of New York and Pennsylvania; giving them to understand, "That as the English inland traders had encroached on the French territories and privileges, by trading with the Indians under the protection of his Sovereign, he would seize them, wherever they should be found, if they did not immediately desist from that illicit practice." This menace not being

Its effects
in regard
to the
French.

regard-