

Fort at *Minas* and *Beau-bassin* : And the *French* remained quiet in those of *Beau-sejour* and *Gaspereaux*. From the Year 1751, to the Expedition in 1755, of which we shall give an Account in the Sequel, that Part of *New-France* suffered nothing from the Neighbourhood of the *English* Colonies. A good Understanding seemed again to be re-established, so that to put an End to the frequent Desertions on that Frontier, the *Marquis du Quesne*, the Successor of the *Marquis de la Jonquiere*, and Mr. *Hobson*, who succeeded General *Cornwallis*, agreed to a Cartel, which was strictly observed from 1752, till last Year.

But if Tranquility seemed to be re-established on the Side of *Acadia*, Enterprizes and Hostilities were multiplied on another Side, in which the Preservation of *Canada* was not less concerned. To fix the Origin and Date of these Troubles, it is necessary to go back a little farther than the Treaty of *Aix-la-Chapelle*.

The *Ohio*, or *La belle Riviere*, as it is sometimes called, forms a natural Communication between *Canada* and *Louisiana*, by the Lake *Erie*, the *French* being concerned both to discover and preserve that Communication, were the First that traced out the whole Course of that River, part of which was visited by *M. de la Salle*, a Gentleman of *Normandy*, in the Year 1679. In 1712, the King in his Letters Patent for the Settling of *Louisiana*, comprehended the River *Wabash*, which empties itself into the *Ohio*, and in general all the Rivers that fall into the *Mississippi*. Since that Time, the *Ohio* has never been frequented by any but the *French*; nor did the *English* ever make any Pretensions to the Lands watered by it. The *Apalachian* Mountains have always been looked on as the Bounds of their Colonies.

The *English* Ministry, who neglected no Means of lessening the Trade of *France*, had for some Time past envied it that advantageous Communication. In 1749 some *English* Traders began a contraband Trade on that River; and it was discovered that they privately stirred up the *Indians* to a War with the *French*. Whereupon the