

rights and powers. No; that won't do, say the party; we have you now in a cloven stick: you shall either give up your privileges, or be exposed to the ravages of the *French*; for you shall neither defend yourselves, nor be assisted by any province else, on any other terms. The circumstances of this affair, I think, clearly evince that this is the real state of the case.

The Letter-writer, p. 4. says, "We are now in an alarming situation: but we have brought the evil upon ourselves." He might have gone farther, and said, "And we are resolved to augment it, unless the assembly comply with our expectations." Although he owns, that his party have brought the evil on themselves, which is true enough; yet his modesty, poor gentleman! will not permit him to let the world know in what manner they brought it on themselves and the whole province. Well, to save him his blushes, I will venture to disclose the secret for him. The present encroachments of the *French* had its rise from a flagrant piece of iniquity, in burning the houses of a great number of families, who were settled on the *Juniatta*, a branch of *Sasquebanna* river; whose lands were not at the time purchased of the *Indians* by the proprietor, whatever intentions he might have had that way.

This unjustifiable proceeding, in the year 1750 or 51, drove near three-score families over to the *French*, then in the neighbourhood of the *Ohio*, where they have continued ever since; big with resentment and revenge for such cruel usage, which shocked those people whom we call savages: a name which more properly belongs to such merciless incendiaries, some of whom have met
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