

A. D. 1757. serve during the present war against France and her allies. And she also insisted on disarming the auxiliary troops, upon returning into their own country.

The Duke of Cumberland, who had, on his part, fulfilled all the conditions of the convention, and caused part of the troops, destined on their return for the country of Lawenbourg, to begin their march, could not consider this new demand otherwise than as a manifest breach of the convention; the Marshal Duke de Richelieu having engaged not only to let the auxiliary troops depart freely, but the convention also setting forth in express terms, that they should not be regarded as prisoners of war, under which quality alone the condition of laying down their arms could take place. Upon this, his Royal Highness sent orders to the said troops to halt.

To reconcile this difference, expedients were proposed, which left no shadow of pretext to the opposite party. But all in vain. The troops, pent up in a narrow district, were exposed to the rigour of the season, and cut off from all necessities and conveniences of every kind.

The French at present pretend to treat the convention as a mere military scheme; and indeed it was at first nothing more: but on account of the above declaration of the court of France, which expressly suspended its validity, and in consequence of the negotiation for disarming the auxiliaries, to which the French general would give no answer categorically, without waiting for in-

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