

perhaps might have happened in so vast a Region, in such a Manner as not to be taken Notice of, which, however, cannot give them the least Shadow of Right.

The Rivers *Miamis* and *Ouabache* only have been used for some Years, as a Communication between *Canada* and *Louisiana*, not that *Great-Britain* can admit that *France* has any Right to those Rivers, much less still to a Passage so near as they are to the River *Ohio*. As to the Use they made of this last River, on Account of the War with the *Chickasaws*, the Allies and Friends of *Great-Britain*, when *Great-Britain* did not even make a formal Complaint of it; it will not follow, that a Violence committed at a certain nice and critical Conjunction, should serve as a Foundation for new Incroachments. This is much the same with the rash and inconsiderate Measures taken by a Governor of a remote Colony, who prohibited the *English* from passing the Mountains of *Virginia*, under the Penalty of having their Goods seized, and being made Prisoners. The Manner in which the Court of *Great-Britain* complains of such like Proceedings has been sufficiently manifested, in the Memorial * delivered by the late Earl of *Albemarle*, the 7th of *March*, 1752, to the Court of *France* itself. What the Court of *Great-Britain*, asserts, and insists upon, is, that the Five *Iroquois* Nations, acknowledged by *France* to be the Subjects of *Britain*, are either originally†, or by Right of Conquest, the lawful Proprietors of the Territory of *Ohio*, in Question. And as to that Part of the Territory, which those People have ceded and transferred to the *British* Nation (which must be acknowledged to be the most lawful and equitable Manner of acquiring it) they claim it as their Property; which they have not ceased to cultivate twenty Years and more, and upon several Parts of which they have formed Settlements, from the very Sources of *Ohio*, as far as *Pikbac-Villians*, which is the Center of the Territory situate between *Ohio* and *Ouabache*. But

* This Memorial never was delivered to the Court of *France*.

† Why do the *English* specify nothing more exactly? The *Iroquois*, if their Original is consider'd, will e'er long give the *English* an universal Title to all *America*.