

to M. Contiecaur;
the Marquis du
Place where the
formed that Major
was in a little Fort
ed Fort *Necessity*,
new Troops that
t du *Quesne*. He
cover, if possible,
lige the *English* to
the *French*. M.
ville, was charged
uctions given him
also expressly com-
the *English* would

June, and having
is committed, and
ay; he arrived the
ity. The *English*,
olley, and retired
vested, and attack-
illiers put a Stop
order to propose to
fault, which would
f the *Indians*, even
ofal was accepted,
French would not
not look on them-
ed, that those who
rned. Major *Wash-*
u Quesne, and gave
Promise. In fine,
h one Piece of Can-
themselves acknow-
pitulation, that the
ge the *Assassination*
ummons. The Ca-
pitulation

pitulation being signed, and the Fort evacuated, the
French destroyed it, and returned to Fort du *Quesne*, with
the two Hostages.

But that Agreement, to which seven or eight Hundred
Englishmen owed their Lives; was by no Means executed
on their Part. The Prisoners were never sent back to
Fort du *Quesne*: Out of twenty that were taken, seven
have been sent to *England*, where they arrived separately,
after having suffer'd the most unworthy Treatment. Up-
on their Arrival, they implored the Assistance of the Duke
de *Mirepoix*, who sent them over to *France* at the Ex-
pence of the King; what is become of the rest, we are
altogether ignorant.

Perhaps the Motive which induced the *English* to de-
tain the Prisoners, was a Piece of Cunning on their Part.
The *French* would have made no Hesitation in sending
back the Hostages immediately; but these had their Or-
ders, and their Stay at Fort du *Quesne* was too advanta-
geous for the *English* to think of having them removed.

These Hostages named, the one *Jacob Ambrane*, and
the other *Robert Stobo*, were two very crafty Spies, and
found Means to carry on a Correspondence with the *Eng-*
lish Generals. There were found among the Papers which
fell into the Hands of the *French* after the Battle of the
9th of *July*, 1755, the Letters which *Robert Stobo*, one
of the Hostages, had written to Major *Washington*. †
That of the 28th of *July*, to which is annexed, an exact
Plan of Fort du *Quesne*, which he had himself drawn, de-
serves, above all, a careful Perusal. In it that Spy gives
a very just Account of the Situation the *French* were then
in, their Number, and their Forces: He shews both the
Time when the *English* might attack the Fort, and the
surest Way to make themselves Masters of it: But what
is particularly to be remarked in that Letter, is, that not-
withstanding that Englishman seemed to be animated with
Fury against the *French*, yet he is obliged to do Justice
to their peaceable Dispositions.

The

† See No. 10. p. 104