

fifty men, under the command of captain Trent; † they were summoned to withdraw from the French territories. The summons was complied with, the fort was quietly evacuated, and they even prayed the sieur de Contre-Cœur, to let them have some provisions, which they wanted: He caused them to be provided abundantly, and destroyed the fort.

As he continued his rout along the river from this place, he met on the banks with the traces of a fort, the construction of which was projected by the English, but was abandoned by them undoubtedly upon receiving intimation of his approach. He remained in this place himself, and fortified it. The entrenchments of this fortification, to which was given the name of fort du Quesne, were not yet finished, when the sieur de Contre-Cœur received advices of a considerable body of troops being on their march towards him. Upon which he charged the sieur de Jumonville with a summons in writing, by way of letter, addressed to the first English commander he should meet. This letter was wrote the 23d. of May 1754, and was nearly to the same purpose with the summons, formerly sent to captain Trent. It carried

† See original papers, No. 6. * See original papers, No. 7.