

French themselves, and the commissaries of both nations, would have canvassed in an amicable manner, the titles and possessions of both crowns.

An answer to this memorial was delivered to the Duke de Mirepoix the 22d of January 1755 *b*. This answer is composed of two parts; and though the first appears somewhat captious, yet the second was free from any sort of double meaning; and ought to have been sufficient to quiet the apprehensions of the court of France with regard to the armament in Ireland.

1. His Britannick Majesty desires, that the possession of the territory towards the river Ohio, may be re-established on the same footing it was on, at the conclusion of the peace of Utrecht; and agreeable to the stipulations of that treaty. He insists likewise on the same regulation with regard to all the other possessions of North America; and consents, after a compliance with these preliminary conditions, to enter into a negotiation concerning the properest methods of instructing the respective governors; and forbidding them all new acts of violence; and that the pretensions on each side may be submitted to be expeditiously and finally discussed, and amicably adjusted, by the ministers of the respective courts.

*b* See original Papers, No. 2.

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