

do you avoid me, we were once friends ; are we so no longer ? The indignant chief replied—why did the French come into our country ? We did not go to seek them. They asked us for land, and we told them to take it where they pleased ; there was enough for them and for us. The same sun ought to enlighten us both, and we ought to walk together as friends in the same path. We promised to give them food—assist them to build and to labour in the fields. We have done so. In 1729, the commandant of the fort had treated them so ill, that they obtained his being summoned to New-Orleans to answer for his conduct. This gave much joy to the Indians. The officer found means to be sent back reinstated in his command. He now determined to indulge his malice against the Indians. He suddenly resolved to build a town on the seite of a village belonging to one of the sachems, which covered a square of three miles extent. He sent for the sun or chief, and directed him to clear the huts and remove to some other place. The chief replied, that their ancestors had lived there for many ages, and that it was good for their descendants to occupy the same ground. This dignified language served only to exasperate the haughty commandant. He declared, that unless the village was abandoned in a few days, the inhabitants of it should repent their obstinacy ! The Indians finding a bloody conflict was inevitable, they laid their plans accordingly. They tried by the best excuses in their power to delay the execution of his plan ; but he treated all their proposals with disdain, and menaced immediate destruction if he was not gratified. The Indians ever fruitful in expedients, got permission to wait till their harvest was got in. During this interval, short as it was, they formed their plan. They held