

Shawanese and Delawars; nations extremely inferior both in numbers and reputation for war to the Irroquois, who are perfectly acquainted with every foot of land, every hollow, every advantageous pass on the communication thro' which this visionary frontier must be supported; visionary I must call it; and should we be unhappy enough to be deluded by this idle dream, the miserable consequences may be foretold, without being possessed of the spirit of divination; the instant these forts fall (which by being cut off from all the means of support must soon happen) the French will re-establish themselves firmly in the dominion of the lakes, pour daily fresh troops into Canada, and by strengthening and populating the communication betwixt the river St. Laurence and

Mississippi