

quences of the differences arisen between the French and the English on the banks of the Ohio, the cause of which as has been above seen, could have been laid to the charge of the latter only, had given in to the court of London by the hands of the Duke deMirepoix a memorial coinciding with these intentions.

In this memorial *a*, which is of the 15th of January, it was proposed by the King to his Britannick Majesty, that, previous to any examination into the grounds and circumstances of this quarrel, positive orders should be sent to the respective governors, inhibiting henceforward any new encroachment or hostile act; and that they should be even directed to re-establish, without delay, matters on the territories situated towards the banks of the Ohio, on the same footing that they were, or ought to have been, on or before the late war.

The King desired at the same time, that their respective pretensions to this territory should be referred amicably to the commissaries; and that in order to remove all apprehensions, his Britannick Majesty would be pleased to explain himself openly, with respect to the destination and motives of the armament which had been made in Ireland.

Had this proposal been accepted, the fort Du Quesne, which the General was ordered to attack, would have been destroyed by the

*a* See original Papers No. I.