

near Chignecto, a small place belonging to the British, not far from Beaufejour, he saw the French set fire to the few houses there, and could distinguish French colours planted on some fences, behind which there were troops of that nation, and several tribes of rebel Indians, whom the French commanders had brought over from the British to their alliance. Major Lawrence continued to advance, and being come pretty near the fence, desired to speak with the chevalier de la Corne, and went singly half way to meet him; the chevalier appearing, the English officer demanded to know the reason of his being there; to which he answered, that by the orders of M. de la Jonquiere, governor of Canada, he was directed not to suffer any British settlements in that country; upon which Mr. Lawrence, not having any orders, returned without committing any hostilities. In a short time after, the rebel Indians returned and rebuilt their houses, and being instructed by the French, began to intrench themselves; upon which Major Lawrence was again detached with 1000 men, to drive them out of the country, if they would not submit to the British government: which last they refusing to do, he forced their intrenchments, and obliged them to fly. The French troops, who were posted at a small distance on the opposite side of the river, took them immediately under their protection. Mr. Lawrence was restrained by his orders from attacking the French, therefore he desisted from farther hostilities. Governor Cornwallis, seeing matters likely to come to a rupture, transmitted an account of these transactions to the duke of Bedford.

His grace ordered the earl of Albemarle to present a memorial of complaint to the French court, which his lordship did in the month of July, and recapitulated all these proceedings, and in the conclusion categorically demanded, that the conduct of Jonquiere, and the other commandants, be disavowed, and positive orders sent them to withdraw their troops and Indians from the territories of the British crown, and amends made for the damage they had done. This memorial occasioned a good deal of caviling, but as the commissaries were met, and had by this time opened the conferences, the French