

As the troops designed for the invasion of Canada could not be increased to too great a number: on the one hand, letters were sent to the governors, with orders to receive all the French deserters, to enlist them, and have them supplied with every thing they should desire: on the other, it was industriously reported among the Ohio savages, that the English had no other view, but to protect them from the encroachments of the French; and the provincial governors were not wanting in their exhortations, that they would meet at Wills's-Creek, on the frontiers of Virginia. But it may be said, that in general, the English have received little assistance from these people. They were not better assisted by the Iroquois. It appears by general Braddock's letters, that of all the Five Nations, (*a*) the Anies were the only, who gave them any instances of attachment.

To proceed: in order to prevail on the savages to take arms against the French, and ravage their colonies, was one of the subjects, deliberated in the grand council held at Alexandria, towards the middle of April. Colonel Shirley, then governor of New-England, arrived in that city the 12th, in company with the other governors, and colonel Johnson, who of all the English officers, was best acquainted with the genius of the savages, and

(*a*) See original Papers, No. 13.