(176)

Indian Nations have a Government of their own, and are as much, and more the Friends and Allies of France, than of England. Several French Families have even been adopted among the Iroquois, and lived with them at the last War, during which the Five Nations observed the strictest Neutrality.

4th, The 15th Article of the Treaty of Utrecht, contains the same Stipulations in Favour of the French, as of the English, and these Stipulations are reciprocal. The French therefore can maintain, by a better Title than the English pretend to have to the Iroquois, that the Abenaquais and Souriquois Nations, otherwise called the Micmas, Malecites, Cannibas, &c. are the Subjects of France: And as some of the Souriquois inhabit the Extremity of the Peninfula, on the Coast of Cape Forchu, and Cape Sable; it will follow, that the French may have Pretentions to form Settlements there, with as much Right as the English did at Ofwego or Chouagen, on the Banks of Lake-Ontario, in the Year 1726, or 1727, and consequently a long Time after the Peace of Utrecht; fince which, France has never ceased complaining of that Enterprize, and expects that the Fort of Chouagen will be destroyed.

5th, Tisa Missinterpretation of the Treaty of Utrecht, to pretend that it authorizes the French and English to trade indiscriminately with all the Indian Nations, under Pretence of Subjection, Alliance, or Friendship: That Article well attended to, and explained, only secures the Liberty of Commerce which the Indians may have with them, or with the European Nations, and by no Means allows them to leave their Colonies, in order to trade with the Indians.

6th, In fine, this XVth Article admits, that it be refpectively determined, what American Nations shall be deemed Subjects or Allies of the two Crowns. This Stipulation has not been performed, because it is indeed hardly possibly to performit, as an Indian Nation who are your Allies To-Day, may, To-Morrow, be your Enemies; consequently their Actions would perpetually contradict such a Determination, as might be agreed upon.

All that has been fet forth, clearly proves, that in examining the XVth Article of the Treaty of Utrecht, ac-

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