

of their American Commander, orders were expedited for reinforcements of men and ammunition to perfect their pernicious designs on that Continent.

A. D.  
1754.

As all this could not be concealed from the British ministry, which was known to all the people; the nation murmured greatly at their supine inactivity; whose only care of that vast and important Continent amounted to no more than some cautionary instructions transmitted to the Governors of our provinces; and for them to unite in their own defence. The instructions ran thus; "It is his Majesty's command, that in case the subjects of any foreign Prince should presume to make any encroachments in the limits of his Majesty's dominions, or to erect forts on his Majesty's lands, or to commit any other act of hostility; and should, upon a requisition made to them to desist from such proceedings, persist in them, they should draw forth the armed force of their respective provinces, and use their best endeavours to repel force by force." The Governors were likewise ordered to form a political confederacy. And the Governor of New York was appointed to confer with the Chiefs of the Indians, and by presents, and other means, to keep them steady to the British interest.

Instructions sent to our Colonies to unite in one confederacy.

This, to be sure, was a desirable union, and a measure that, if effectually executed, might have answered the intention of preventing further encroachments; but, such is the bad policy of British subjects, that they, by their own contentions, fre-

How they were frustrated.