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THE  
P R E S E N T S T A T E  
OF THE  
E U R O P E A N S E T T L E M E N T S  
On the M I S S I S S I P P I.

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Of the River M I S S I S S I P P I.

THE river Mississippi has been known by a variety of names; the first discoverers from Canada gave it the name of Colbert, in honour to that great minister, who was then in power. The famous adventurer, Monsieur de Salle, when he discovered the mouth, called it the river Saint Louis, by which name it has ever been distinguished in all publick acts, respecting the province of Louissianna: But its present general appellation of Mississippi is a corruption of *Metchasippi*; by which name it is still known to the Northern Savages, that word signifying, in their language, the Father of Rivers.

Nothing can, with propriety, be asserted with respect to the source of this river, tho' there are people still existing, who pretend to have been there. The accounts, which I think should be paid most attention to, are those which have been given by the *Sioux*, a