

To these preliminaries the Most Christian King added a declaration, setting forth, that he does not mean to renounce the right of acquitting his debts to his allies; and that the remittances which may be made on his part, in order to acquit the arrears that may be due on the subsidies of the preceding years, are not to be considered as an infraction of the 13th article of the preliminaries.

Here have I given you the substance of the authentic preliminaries; and, I think, it will be proper to take a concise view in what they essentially differ from the proposals made us last year by Mr. de Buffly, and on which side the advantage lies.

Though, by the conditions offered by France, in 1761, the Most Christian King agreed to cede and guaranty Canada to England, the country between the Mississippi and our colonies was not be yielded to us; so that the limits of the respective territories, of England and France in North America, would have been as indeterminate as before hostilities commenced; and we should not have been in possession of that fine country, more extensive by many hundred miles than the limited provinces we should have been cooped up in, had we agreed to the terms proposed