

A. D.  
1754.

regarded, he next year caused three British traders to be arrested. Their effects were confiscated and their persons sent, by the way of Quebec, to Rochelle in Old France, and there imprisoned: As already related more at large <sup>c</sup>.

In regard  
to the In-  
dians.

This grant produced another unlucky effect <sup>d</sup>. The new company not only neglected to gain the consent of the native Indians, on the back of the royal patent, which might have been done at a trifling expence, and what has been usual on like occasions; but they sent a person to survey their country in such a dark mysterious manner, as gave a people, naturally jealous, too much room for suspicion and discontent. Which disposed them to receive any overtures, with more willingness from the French, offered by way of protection. Besides, the jealousy of the Indians was greatly heightened by the traders from Pennsylvania and Virginia, who foresaw that they themselves would be great losers, in that valuable branch of traffic, from which they were to be excluded by the royal privilege of a new monopoly.

French  
court's be-  
haviour at  
the com-  
plaint a-  
bout Fort  
Necessity.

The action at Fort Necessity being transmitted to London; it was represented by the British Ambassador at Paris, as an open violation of the peace. Which did not meet with the same degree of respect, as on former occasions of complaint; the time now nearly approaching for the French to pull off the mask of moderation and peace. For, instead of disavowing the conduct

<sup>c</sup> On page 44, &c.

<sup>d</sup> Ibid.