

or ought to have been on, since the treaty of Utrecht ; and that all the forts, on both sides, built, since that epoch, on the territories in dispute should be demolished.

Lastly, It was agreed by their majesties, that they should cause all the points in dispute to be canvassed, and amicably settled, by the commissaries appointed for that purpose, within the space of two years.

This was acquiescing, as we plainly see, in the proposal made by the court of London, in its memorial of the 22d of January, 1755. The court of France negotiated with so much the more confidence, as the king of England's ministers had, very recently, given assurances to the Duke de Mirepoix, that the armaments in Ireland, and the fleet which had sailed from thence, were chiefly intended to maintain subordination and good order among the English colonies.

Those same ministers who dreaded nothing so much as an accommodation ; and who were well informed that at that time, Mr. Braddock, and all the English commanders were on their march, were to the last degree surprized at seeing France, thus submitting, in some sort, to their demands. They therefore resolved to alter the plan, they had themselves proposed ; and the 7th of March there was delivered, by their direction, to the Duke de Mirepoix, another project of convention, which they never would have thought of ; but that they were
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