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tries of the Creek and Chickasaw Indians? On the Ohio they could not build a warehouse but it was presently known to our back settlers, but in Louisiana they may erect another Lisle without our knowing any thing of the matter, and may soon win over to their interests all the intermediate Indians: a task we have no reason to think will prove difficult, since they have already brought them to make war upon us, and have built forts in their countries. Yet these Indians are supposed, by the British ministry, to be under our protection, and are to form this famous barrier *. Had we insisted on the Mississippi being regarded as the bounds of Louisiana, the above objections would in a great measure have been rejected, but our amazing ignorance in demanding the protection of these countries without specifying the exact limits of the French colony, must necessarily lead us into many mistakes greatly to our prejudice. The British Memorial asserts, that such and such Indian nations are under our protection; why not say, that *all the Indian nations of whatever name, whose countries are situated on the east side of the river Mississippi are and ought to be regarded as under the protection of Great-Britain, and any forts or lands in possession of the French in the said countries shall be directly demolished and regarded as usurpations, particularly fort Condé and fort Toulouse.* Now let me ask any unprejudiced man whether such expressions would not have conveyed a much clearer idea of the countries than the vague ones used by the British Minister? The nations which he asserts are under our protection all extend to the Mississippi, and yet he omitted that demand which could not be misconstrued.

* It is so far from my intention to interpret any thing contrary to its real meaning that I shall give the words of the British Memorial on these intermediate Indians.

"As to what respects the line to be drawn from Rio Perdido as contained in the note remitted by M. Buffy with regard to the limits of Louisiana his Majesty is obliged to reject so unexpected a proposition as by no means admissible in two respects.

1. Because the said line, under colour of fixing the limits of Louisiana, annexes vast countries to that province, which with the commanding posts and forts, the Marquis de Vaudreuil has, by the most solemn capitulation incontestably yielded into the possession of his Britannic Majesty, under the description of Canada, and that consequently however contentious the pretensions of the two crowns may have been before the war, and particularly with respect to the course of the Ohio, and the territories in that part since the surrender of Canada, and the line of its limits has been traced as aforesaid by the Marquis de Vaudreuil, all those opposite titles are united, and become valid without contradiction, to confirm to Great-Britain with all the rest of Canada the possession of those countries on *that part* of the Ohio which have been heretofore contested.

2. The line proposed to fix the bounds of Louisiana cannot be admitted because it would comprise in another part on the side of the Carolinas, very extensive countries and numerous nations who have always been reputed to be under the protection of the King, a right which his Majesty has no intention of renouncing; and then the King, for the advantage of peace, might consent to leave the intermediate countries under the protection of Great-Britain, and particularly the Cherokees, the Creeks, the Chickasaws, the Choctaws, and another nation, situate between the British settlements and the Mississippi."

Perhaps