

boats, managed by men quite unprepared for action, their arms and ammunition generally wet, from the nature of their work? Will continual and numerous escorts, marching on the banks of the river, be proposed an expedient? The multitude of troops and prodigious expence this would require, would render it intolerable; besides the chain of forts which would be necessary for this end, would never be suffered by the Six Nations (who are the proprietors of the country through which this communication is carried) whilst they are an independent people; and independent they are, as long as there are two different European powers in America; that is to say, as long as they can be supplied with ammunition by one to act against the other. Was there only one power then they would be