

# Letters to Washington

AND

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## CONTENTS OF VOLUME II

---

1756	PAGE
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, NOVEMBER 16TH . . . . .	1
Malicious newspaper article.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, NOVEMBER 16TH . . . . .	2
Behavior of officers — Military affairs.	
A COUNCIL OF WAR, OCTOBER 30TH . . . . .	6
REMARKS ON THE COUNCIL OF WAR, OCTOBER 30TH . . . . .	9
A COUNCIL OF WAR, NOVEMBER 15TH . . . . .	12
FROM JOHN CARLYLE, ESQRE., DECEMBER 2ND . . . . .	13
London orders — Tobacco — Military accounts — Military affairs.	
FROM CAPTAIN PETER HOG, DECEMBER 8TH . . . . .	15
Military affairs.	
A COUNCIL, DECEMBER 9TH . . . . .	16
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, DECEMBER 10TH . . . . .	17
Forts Cumberland and Loudoun — Indian affairs — Ensign McCarty — Back inhabitants.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, DECEMBER 15TH . . . . .	23
Deserters — Appointment of commissary — Ensign McCarty — Lord Loudoun.	
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, DECEMBER 17TH . . . . .	25
Appointment of commissary.	
LIST OF INDIAN GOODS AT FORT CUMBERLAND, DECEMBER 24TH . . . . .	26
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, DECEMBER 27TH . . . . .	27
Military affairs — Indian affairs — Fort Cumberland — Lord Loudoun.	
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, DECEMBER 31ST . . . . .	30
Retention of Fort Cumberland — Money affairs.	
1757	
FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX, JANUARY 13TH . . . . .	33
Washington's recovery — Stanwix' appointment.	
FROM ALEXANDER LUNAN, ESQRE., JANUARY 14TH . . . . .	34
Military goods.	

FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE, JANUARY 22ND . . . . .	35
Commissary affairs.	
FROM COLONEL WILLIAM FAIRFAX, JANUARY 22ND . . . . .	38
Bryan Fairfax — Lord Loudoun — Military affairs at the north — Parliament and the ministry — Money affairs — Ensign McCarty — Assembly prorogued.	
FROM COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS, FEBRUARY 7TH . . . . .	41
Personal affairs.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JANUARY 26TH . . . . .	42
Mutiny — Deserters — Military regulations — Appointment of commissary — Catawbas — Enlistment of servants — Military af- fairs — Lord Loudoun.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, FEBRUARY 2ND . . . . .	44
Meeting of Lord Loudoun and the Southern governors at Phila- delphia.	
FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT MCKENZIE, FEBRUARY 18TH . . . . .	45
Asking advice — Indian depredations.	
FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT, FEBRUARY 19TH . . . . .	48
Requesting transfer — Desertion of recruit.	
FROM JAMES CUNINGHAM, ESQRE., FEBRUARY 27TH . . . . .	49
Lord Loudoun's reply to Washington.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., MARCH 14TH . . . . .	49
Lord Loudoun — Calling attention to his brother — Mary Philipse.	
COUNCIL HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 23RD . . . . .	51
FROM CLEMENT READ, ESQRE., MARCH 15TH . . . . .	54
Catawbas.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., MARCH 22ND . . . . .	56
Indian affairs — Lord Loudoun — Virginia assembly.	
FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT, MARCH 24TH . . . . .	57
Requesting commission for his brother.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., MARCH 31ST . . . . .	58
Indian affairs — Governor Dinwiddie — Virginia Council — Fort Cumberland.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, APRIL 5TH . . . . .	60
Fort Cumberland — Transportation of troops to South Carolina — Indians — Virginia assembly — Fort in the Cherokee country.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, APRIL 7TH . . . . .	61
Transportation of troops to South Carolina — Evacuation of Fort Cumberland — Indian affairs — Military affairs.	
FROM MAJOR ANDREW LEWIS, APRIL 8TH . . . . .	63
Requesting instructions — Cherokees.	

*Contents of Volume II*

v

---

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL OF WAR, APRIL 16TH . . . . .	64
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, APRIL 21ST . . . . .	65
Appointment of Captain Gist — Acts of Assembly — Money af- fairs — Situation in Virginia.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., MAY 6TH . . . . .	69
Bryan Fairfax — Captain Gist.	
FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN TO COLONEL STANWIX, MAY 6TH . . . . .	70
Authorizing courts martial.	
INSTRUCTIONS TO WASHINGTON, MAY 16TH . . . . .	71
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, MAY 16TH . . . . .	73
Washington's pay and commissions.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX, MAY 23RD . . . . .	74
Military affairs.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, MAY 23RD . . . . .	75
Edmund Atkin — Indian affairs — Money affairs — Cherokees — Increase of forces.	
FROM WILLIAM BALL, ESQRE., MAY 25TH . . . . .	77
Asking compensation for servant enlisted.	
FROM WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, MAY 24TH . . . . .	78
Sergeant Fent or Fant — South Carolina detachment — Recom- mending volunteers. — Recommending Mr. Kirkpatrick — Indian affairs.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL, JUNE 1ST . . . . .	82
Appointment to 44th regiment — Military affairs at the north.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JUNE 2ND . . . . .	83
Sergeant Fent or Fant — Bill of supplies — Mr. Atkin — Military affairs — Batmen — Captain Hog.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JUNE 6TH . . . . .	85
Indian affairs — Bill for augmenting forces — Captain Bullin's scheme — Military arms.	
FROM RICHARD BLAND, ESQRE., JUNE 7TH . . . . .	87
Disputes with Virginia Council — Intention to write upon military enterprises of Virginia.	
FROM LIEUTENANT JAMES BAKER, JUNE 10TH . . . . .	89
Skirmish with enemy — Death of the Swallow warrior.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN DAGWORTHY, JUNE 14TH . . . . .	91
Rumors of attack on Fort Cumberland.	
FROM MAJOR JAMES LIVINGSTON, ESQRE., JUNE 14TH . . . . .	91
Rumors of attack on Fort Cumberland.	
FROM MAJOR JAMES LIVINGSTON, ESQRE. . . . .	93

---

COUNCIL OF WAR HELD AT FORT LOUDOUN, JUNE 16TH . . . . .	94
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JUNE 16TH . . . . .	96
Cherokees.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN DAGWORTHY, JUNE 17TH . . . . .	97
Alarm at Fort Cumberland.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, JUNE 17TH . . . . .	98
Fairfax militia.	
FROM EDWARD SHIPPEN, ESQRE., JUNE 17TH . . . . .	99
Military goods.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX, JUNE 18TH . . . . .	100
Alarm at Fort Cumberland — Rendezvous at Winchester — Move- ments of enemy.	
FROM EDMUND ATKIN, ESQRE., JUNE 19TH . . . . .	102
French prisoner — Complaining of action of Virginia officers.	
FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT, JUNE 19TH . . . . .	106
Refuting Mr. Atkin's accusations.	
FROM CAPTAIN ALEXANDER BEALL, JUNE 19TH . . . . .	107
Sending of soldiers to Fort Cumberland — Need of Indians.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., JUNE 19TH . . . . .	108
Bryan Fairfax — Militia — Extract from Act of Assembly.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JUNE 20TH . . . . .	110
Rumored attack on Fort Cumberland — Militia — Money affairs — Indian affairs — Fort Loudoun — Captain Spotswood — Increase of forces.	
FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQRE., JUNE 19TH . . . . .	113
Rumored attack — Militia — Captain Cock's accounts — Military regulations.	
FROM JOHN BAYLOR, ESQRE., JUNE 20TH . . . . .	115
Returns mare — Regrets inability to perform military service — Captain Spotswood — Lieutenant Baker.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX, JUNE 22ND . . . . .	116
French prisoner — Rendezvous at Fort Loudoun — Cherokees — Rumors of attack on Fort Augusta.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX, JUNE 22ND . . . . .	117
False alarm at Fort Cumberland — Militia — Rumors of attack on Fort Augusta.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JUNE 24TH . . . . .	118
Indian affairs — Captain Pearis — Batmen — Military orders — Deserters — Colonel Stanwix — Expedition of Major Lewis — Com- missary affairs — Increase of forces — Refusing leave of absence — Commissions — Chaplain — Movements of enemy.	

*Contents of Volume II*

vii

---

FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., JUNE 26TH . . . . .	121
Militia — Lieutenant Baker — Captain Spotswood — Outasite.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JUNE 27TH . . . . .	123
Movements of enemy — Militia — Cherokees — Creeks — Doubts rumor from Montreal — Military affairs — Lord Loudoun — Money affairs.	
FROM ARCHIBALD CARY, ESQRE., JUNE 28TH . . . . .	125
Volunteers — Rumored movements of enemy.	
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, JUNE 29TH . . . . .	126
Money affairs — Volunteers — Captain Spotswood — Captain Mercer.	
RETURN OF PROVISIONS FOR THE CHEROKEE INDIANS, JUNE 9TH AND 10TH . . . . .	128
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., JULY 1ST . . . . .	130
Fairfax militia — Volunteers — Fort Loudoun — Transport from England — Lord Loudoun — General Webb — Colonel Stanwix — Outasite.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL, JULY 5TH . . . . .	131
Expedition against Louisbourg.	
FROM GOVERNOR DENNY TO COLONEL STANWIX, JULY 7TH . . . . .	133
Indian depredations — Cherokees — Senecas — Bad provisions — Military regulations — Sailing of Admiral Holbourne — Captain Rankin — Inclosing letter to Mr. Atkin from Sir William Johnson.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN DAGWORTHY, JULY 10TH . . . . .	135
Inclosing deposition of John Street in regard to strength and movements of enemy.	
FROM COLONEL STANWIX, JULY 11TH . . . . .	137
Asking the forwarding of letter from Sir William Johnson to Mr. Atkin — Indian depredations — Militia affairs at the north — Mili- tary orders.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, JULY 13TH . . . . .	139
Friendly advice — Forebodings — Rumors from Halifax — Mary Philipse — Roger Morris — Arrival of fleet from England.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JULY 13TH . . . . .	141
Military affairs — Military orders — Militia — Commissary af- fairs — Money affairs.	
LIST OF OFFICERS IN THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT, JULY 13TH . . . . .	144
FROM COLONEL STANWIX, JULY 14TH . . . . .	145
Deposition of John Street.	
FROM WILLIAM RAMSAY, ESQRE., JULY 15TH . . . . .	146
Mining shares — Arrival of fleet from England.	

---

FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., JULY 17TH . . . . .	147
Desertions — Fort Loudoun — Mr. Atkin — Desiring commission for William Henry Fairfax — Captain Gist.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, JULY 18TH . . . . .	149
Commissary affairs — Money affairs — Commissions — Mutiny and Desertion Act — Military orders — Desertions — Washington's pay — Batmen — Deposition of John Street — Drafts.	
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, JULY 18TH . . . . .	152
Friendly — Mutiny Act — Desertions — Money affairs — Captain Spotswood.	
FROM COLONEL STANWIX, JULY 18TH . . . . .	153
Ill humor of Cherokees.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., JULY 19TH . . . . .	154
Deposition of John Street — Commission for William Henry Fairfax — Imprisonment of two Cherokees — Estate of Lawrence Washington.	
FROM EDMUND ATKIN, ESQRE., JULY 20TH . . . . .	156
Complaints of Indian prisoners.	
FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, JULY 21ST . . . . .	158
Military goods — Mining shares — Alarm at Fort Cumberland.	
FROM THE REV. WILLIAM MELDRUM, JULY 26TH . . . . .	159
Regretting inability to attend deserters condemned to death.	
PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR SHARPE, JULY 26TH . . . . .	160
FROM GOVERNOR SHARPE, JULY 27TH . . . . .	161
Apprehension of deserters harbored in Baltimore County — Inclosing deposition of Sergeant Davis regarding Captain Gist's recruiting.	
FROM WILLIAM RAMSAY, ESQRE., JULY 30TH . . . . .	164
Asking a loan — Arrival of fleet at Halifax — Rumor of the capture of Prague by the Prussians.	
FROM COLONEL STANWIX, AUGUST 1ST . . . . .	165
Indian affairs — Granting leave of absence.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., AUGUST 6TH . . . . .	166
William Henry Fairfax — Imprisonment of Cherokees.	
FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQRE., AUGUST 8TH . . . . .	167
News from Halifax — Apprehensions for Fort William Henry.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., AUGUST 8TH . . . . .	168
Inclosing papers — Social.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, AUGUST 8TH . . . . .	169
Granting leave to suspected spy — Indian depredations — Imprisonment of Cherokees.	

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, AUGUST 13TH . . . . .	170
Money affairs — Increase of forces — Military orders — Com- plains of looseness in writing — Commissary affairs — Deserters — Recruiting.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., AUGUST 15TH . . . . .	172
Surrender of Fort William Henry. Inclosing details of the sur- render.	
FROM CAPTAIN GEORGE MERCER, AUGUST 17TH . . . . .	173
Description of Charlestown and inhabitants — Defeat of the Aus- trian army — Situation of Virginia regiment in South Carolina — Recruiting in South Carolina — Desires to succeed Colonel Stephen in command — Desires letters from Virginia.	
FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN, AUGUST 20TH . . . . .	180
Condition of Virginia regiment in Charlestown.	
FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM PEACHEY, AUGUST 22ND . . . . .	181
Malicious utterances of Christopher Robinson — Desires payment for service — Captain Spotswood.	
DEPOSITION OF THOMAS HUDSON, AUGUST 27TH. . . . .	184
FROM MAJOR ANDREW LEWIS, SEPTEMBER 1ST . . . . .	185
Military affairs.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, SEPTEMBER 1ST . . . . .	187
Desires lieutenant's commission for William Henry Fairfax.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, SEPTEMBER 2ND . . . . .	188
Desertions — Commissary affairs — Indian depredations — Re- cruiting — Pardoning of deserters — Money affairs — Reason for accusation of looseness in writing — Indian affairs — Military af- fairs — Commission for William Henry Fairfax.	
FROM WILLIAM RAMSAY, ESQRE., SEPTEMBER 3RD . . . . .	191
Commissary affairs.	
FROM MR. DAVID HALL, SEPTEMBER 8TH . . . . .	191
Pennsylvania Gazette.	
FROM DR. DAVID ROSS, SEPTEMBER 2ND . . . . .	192
Condemnation of provisions at Fort Cumberland.	
FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQRE., SEPTEMBER 17TH . . . . .	194
Friendly — Business schemes — Inclosing receipt.	
FROM COLONEL STANWIX, SEPTEMBER 19TH . . . . .	195
Desertion — Return of Lord Loudoun — Rebuilding of Fort Wil- liam Henry — Rumor of the rout of the army of the Duke of Cum- berland — Movements of the regulars.	
FROM LEWIS STEPHENS, ESQRE., SEPTEMBER 20TH . . . . .	197
Expressing gratitude for protection — Indian movements.	

FROM COLONEL WILLIAM TALIFERRO TO CHARLES LEWIS, ESQRE . . . . .	198
Accidental killing by Lieutenant Smith.	
FROM COLONEL CHARLES LEWIS, SEPTEMBER 21ST . . . . .	199
Accidental killing by Lieutenant Smith.	
FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT, MARCH 24TH . . . . .	200
Complaint against Captain Hog.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, SEPTEMBER 24TH . . . . .	202
Drafts — Desertion — Commissary affairs — Indian affairs —	
Increase of forces — Provisions at Fort Cumberland — Money af-	
fairs — Appointment of Captain McNeill — Commission for William	
Henry Fairfax — Scandal — Accusation of ingratitude. *	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, SEPTEMBER 24TH . . . . .	205
Depredation of enemy — Resignation of Lieutenant Fell — Ap-	
pointment of Mr. Chew — Captain McNeill.	
FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART, SEPTEMBER 27TH . . . . .	205
Misdemeanors of Quartermaster Hamilton — Cherokees — De-	
serter.	
FROM GOVERNOR DENNY, OCTOBER 9TH . . . . .	207
Inclosing letter from Sir William Johnson — Cherokees.	
FROM SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON TO GOVERNOR DENNY, SEPTEMBER	
25TH . . . . .	208
Congress of the Six Nations.	
FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT AND OTHERS, OCTOBER 10TH . . . . .	209
Recommending Sergeant John McCully.	
FROM THOMAS GAGE, ESQRE., OCTOBER 15TH . . . . .	210
Friendly — Disastrous expeditions — Commending Ensign John	
Hall.	
FROM JAMES CUNNINGHAM, ESQRE., OCTOBER 16TH . . . . .	211
Commending Ensign John Hall — Advises William Henry Fair-	
fax — Friendly — Commending Mr. Byrd.	
FROM GEORGE WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., OCTOBER 17TH . . . . .	212
Friendly — Defeat of the Duke of Cumberland — Threats —	
Colonel Prevost — Lord Charles Hay — Sir John St. Clair — Fort	
William Henry.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, OCTOBER 19TH . . . . .	214
Increase of forces — Depredation of enemy — Mr. Atkin — Cap-	
tain Gist — Indian affairs — Quartermaster Hamilton — The Dun-	
ker — Military regulations — Refuses leave of absence — Military	
orders.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, OCTOBER 24TH . . . . .	217
Commissary affairs — Deserters — Indian affairs — Dunker's peti-	
tion.	

*Contents of Volume II*

xi

---

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE AND WILLIAM RAMSAY, OCTOBER 21ST . . . . .	218
FROM MAJOR JOHN TULLIKEN, OCTOBER 27TH . . . . .	221
Acknowledging congratulations.	
FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQRE., OCTOBER 30TH . . . . .	222
Acknowledging favors — Friendly.	
FROM CHARLES LEWIS, ESQRE., NOVEMBER 1ST . . . . .	224
Asking return of papers — Acknowledging favor.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, NOVEMBER 2ND . . . . .	224
Increase of forces — Offensive war — Indian affairs — Settlement with Dr. Ross.	
FROM CAPTAIN GEORGE MERCER, NOVEMBER 2ND . . . . .	226
Pay of men — Discontent — Highlanders — News from Virginia — Desire to return — Opinion of Charlestown — News from the North — French prize.	
FROM THE HONBLE SPEAKER ROBINSON, NOVEMBER 3RD . . . . .	229
Indian depredations — Military tactics — Increase of forces — Royal Americans — Governor Dinwiddie's successor.	
FROM CAPTAIN STEWART TO GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, NOVEMBER 9TH	231
Illness of Washington — Commissary affairs — Deserters — Dun- cards — Asking leave of absence.	
FROM THE REVEREND WILLIAM SMITH, NOVEMBER 10TH . . . . .	233
Pennsylvania Magazine — Asking data for History of French and Indian war.	
FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM PEACHEY, NOVEMBER 14TH . . . . .	234
Friendly — Captain Spotswood — Captain Bullitt — Scandal — Complains of former ill-treatment — Asks advice.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE, NOVEMBER 14TH . . . . .	237
Indian affairs — Money affairs.	
FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE TO CAPTAIN STEWART, NOVEMBER 15TH . . . . .	239
Washington's illness — Military affairs — Granting leave of ab- sence.	
FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQRE., NOVEMBER 22ND . . . . .	241
Military affairs.	
FROM CAPTAIN STEWART TO COLONEL STANWIX, NOVEMBER 24TH	242
Washington's illness.	
FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART, NOVEMBER 24TH . . . . .	243
Washington's illness — Military affairs — Asking leave of absence — Asking letters of recommendation — Pennsylvania Magazine — Election.	

FROM DR. JAMES CRAIK, NOVEMBER 25TH . . . . .	246
Expressing concern at continued illness — Advice — Asking leave of absence.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL . . . . .	248
Desire to enter the Regulars — Asking letters of recommendation.	
FROM GEORGE WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., DECEMBER 6TH . . . . .	250
Parliamentary addresses — News from England.	
FROM ALEXANDER BOYD, ESQRE., DECEMBER 6TH . . . . .	252
Money affairs.	
FROM WILLIAM HENRY FAIRFAX, ESQRE., DECEMBER 9TH . . . . .	252
Reception by Lord Loudoun and regular officers — Illness of Captain Cunningham — Future plans — Purchase of commission — Resigns from Virginia regiment — Major Livingston — Virginia regiment.	
1758	
FROM GEORGE MASON, ESQRE., JANUARY 4TH . . . . .	254
Military accounts — Illness of sister — Friendly advice.	
FROM ROBERT CARTER NICHOLAS, JANUARY 5TH . . . . .	256
Dispute with Anthony Strother — Mr. Power — Mr. Wythe — Departure of Governor Dinwiddie.	
FROM THE HONBLE JOHN BLAIR, JANUARY 25TH . . . . .	257
Indian reinforcements.	
FROM JOHN BAYLIS, ESQRE., JANUARY 30TH . . . . .	258
Complaint against officers of Virginia regiment.	
FROM CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER GIST, FEBRUARY 3RD . . . . .	260
Indian reinforcements — Military accounts.	
FROM THE HONBLE JOHN BLAIR, FEBRUARY 5TH . . . . .	262
Granting leave of absence — Indian reinforcements — Military affairs — Colonel Young.	
FROM ROBERT CARTER NICHOLAS, ESQRE., FEBRUARY 6TH . . . . .	264
False report of Washington's death.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., FEBRUARY 11TH . . . . .	265
Apology.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL, FEBRUARY 14TH . . . . .	265
Congratulation on recovery — Promotion — Expresses gratitude.	
FROM NATHANIEL THOMPSON, FEBRUARY 20TH . . . . .	266
Refuting Major Baylis' accusations.	
FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH, FEBRUARY 23RD . . . . .	268
Refuting Major Baylis' accusations — Progress of work on Fort Loudoun.	

*Contents of Volume II*

xiii

---

FROM MAJOR JOHN SMITH, MARCH 2ND . . . . .	269
Desiring interview.	
FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, MARCH 1ST . . . . .	270
Inclosing letter from Joseph Chew—Mr. Chew's trunk—Expedition against Ticonderoga—Lord Loudoun—New England governors—Meditated expedition—Inclosing account of victory of king of Prussia.	
FROM THE HONBLE PRESIDENT BLAIR, MARCH 10TH . . . . .	272
Case of John and James Holloway—Deserters.	
FROM COLONEL STANWIX, MARCH 10TH . . . . .	273
Major Smith's scheme—Washington's intention to resign—Recall of Lord Loudoun—Lord George Sackville—Expectation of fleet.	
FROM THE HONBLE PRESIDENT BLAIR, APRIL 9TH . . . . .	274
Indian affairs—Drafts.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN BAKER, APRIL 10TH . . . . .	276
Shooting of Cox and Lane by Lieutenant Chew.	
FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR, APRIL 13TH . . . . .	277
Indian affairs.	
FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQRE., APRIL 16TH . . . . .	278
Promises to forward letter to Mr. Richard Washington—Military news.	
FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR, APRIL 20TH . . . . .	279
Congratulation on recovery—Indian affairs.	
FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL STEPHEN, APRIL 22ND . . . . .	280
Arrival in Fredericksburg—Acquiescence to orders.	
COUNCIL OF OFFICERS HELD AT FORT LOUDOUN, APRIL 24TH . . . . .	281
FROM LIEUTENANT BASSET, ENGR., APRIL 27TH . . . . .	283
Repairing of roads—Forage.	
FROM THE HONBLE PRESIDENT BLAIR, MAY 3RD . . . . .	283
Desiring commission for Mr. French Mason.	
FROM FRANCIS HALKETT, ESQRE., MAY 4TH . . . . .	284
Desiring prisoners to be sent to Philadelphia—Indian affairs.	
FROM COLONEL GEORGE MASON, MAY 6TH . . . . .	287
Recommending French Mason.	
FROM COLONEL HENRY LEE, MAY 16TH . . . . .	289
Inclosing President's order for garrisoning forts by militia—sending of militia.	
FROM WARNER LEWIS, ESQRE., MAY 5TH . . . . .	290
Recommending Mr. Charles Tomkins.	

FROM WARNER LEWIS, ESQRE., MAY 6TH . . . . .	290
Recommending Lieutenant Thurston <sup>Wes</sup> and Mr. Edward Cary.	
FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR, MAY 7TH . . . . .	291
Indian affairs.	
FROM JOHN NORTON, ESQRE., MAY 9TH . . . . .	292
Recommending Mr. Thurston and Mr. Cary.	
FROM PRESIDENT BLAIR, MAY 11TH . . . . .	292
Recommending Lieutenant Baker for promotion.	
FROM JOHN BLAGG, MAY 11TH . . . . .	294
Enlistment of volunteers.	
FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR, MAY 14TH . . . . .	295
Meeting at Winchester.	
FROM THE HONBLE PRESIDENT BLAIR, MAY 15TH . . . . .	295
Recruiting—Maryland forces.	
FROM WILLIAM CALLAWAY, MAY 15TH . . . . .	296
Indian depredations.	
FROM COLONEL GEORGE MASON, MAY 16TH . . . . .	298
French Mason's commission—Virginia regiment versus British troops.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., MAY 10TH . . . . .	300
Friendly—Situation at the north.	
FROM LIEUTENANT BULLITT, MAY 21 <del>ST</del> . . . . .	302
Trouble with Indians in camp.	
FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQRE., MAY 21ST . . . . .	303
Letter forwarded to Mr. Richard Washington—French prisoners—Scalps.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., MAY 17TH . . . . .	303
Inclosing newspapers—Friendly.	
FROM THE HONBLE PRESIDENT BLAIR, MAY 24TH . . . . .	304
Council called—Bounty money—Enlisted men—Behavior of Cherokees—Military orders.	
DEPOSITIONS AND LETTERS IN REGARD TO BEHAVIOR OF FRIENDLY CHEROKEES . . . . .	307
ORDERS FOR COLONEL WASHINGTON, MAY 24TH . . . . .	316
FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQRE., JUNE 6TH . . . . .	317
Inclosing instructions—Asking change of instructions.	
FROM COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS, JUNE 10TH . . . . .	319
Military goods—Military accounts.	
ORDERS FOR COLONEL WASHINGTON, JUNE 13TH . . . . .	320

*Contents of Volume II*

xv

---

FROM MR. JOHN PATTERSON, JUNE 17TH . . . . .	321
Building at Mount Vernon.	
FROM MR. HUMPHREY KNIGHT, JUNE 16TH . . . . .	322
Accounts — Building at Mount Vernon — Agricultural reports.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN ST. CLAIR, JUNE 18TH . . . . .	324
Military affairs.	
FROM JAMES SINCLAIR, ESQRE., JUNE 20TH . . . . .	325
Desiring escort for Mr. Glen.	
FROM JOSEPH WOLGAMOTE, JUNE 20TH . . . . .	326
Complaining of Captain Feilos.	
FROM JOHN KIDD, JUNE 21ST . . . . .	327
Military goods.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN ST. CLAIR, JUNE 22ND . . . . .	328
Military affairs.	
FROM COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS, JUNE 25TH . . . . .	329
Accounts — Deserter.	
FROM BRIGADE MAJOR FRANCIS HALKETT, JUNE 25TH . . . . .	330
Indian affairs — General Abercrombie.	
FROM CAPTAIN WALTER STEUART, JUNE 27TH . . . . .	331
Acknowledging commission.	
FROM DAVID FRANKS, JUNE 27TH . . . . .	332
Inclosing receipts.	
FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET, JUNE 27TH . . . . .	332
Marching orders.	
FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN, JUNE 28TH . . . . .	334
Arrival at Raystown — Description of roads — Description of march — Military regulations.	
FROM MR. JACOB HITE, JUNE 29TH . . . . .	335
Asking countermanding of orders.	
FROM LIEUTENANT CHARLES SMITH, JULY 1ST . . . . .	336
Accounts — Desertions — Discontent.	
A WEEKLY RETURN OF THE SOLDIERS LEFT AT FORT LOUDOUN UNDER THE COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT CHARLES SMITH . . . . .	338
FROM MR. JOHN HITE, JULY 2ND . . . . .	339
Asking countermanding of orders.	
FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQRE., JULY 2ND . . . . .	339
Asking countermanding of orders.	
FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH, JULY 4TH . . . . .	341
Deceit of Captain Johnny.	

FROM COLONEL BOUQUET, JULY 5 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	342
Military orders.	
FROM GABRIEL JONES, JULY 6 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	343
Election prospects.	
FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQRE., JULY 6 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	345
Friendly — Election prospects — Arrival of North Carolina men.	
FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN, JULY 6 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	346
Congratulatory — Military affairs.	
FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH, JULY 7 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	347
Sending out scouts to Fort Du Quesne — Directions for distinguishing friendly Indians.	
FROM JAMES WOOD, JULY 7 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	349
Election prospects.	
FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET, JULY 8 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	350
Military orders — General Abercrombie — General Forbes.	
FROM MR. WILLIAM POOLE, JULY 9 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	351
Washington's mill.	
FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH, JULY 11 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	352
Military affairs — Adoption of Indian dress.	
FROM MR. CHRISTOPHER HARDWICK, JULY 11 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	353
Agricultural reports.	
FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET, JULY 11 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	354
Arrival of Major Lewis' company — Adoption of Indian dress — Provision for Maryland troops — General Forbes.	
FROM COLONEL GEORGE MERCER, JULY 12 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	355
Provisions exhausted — Progress of march — Sickness — Need of powder.	
FROM MR. HUMPHREY KNIGHT, JULY 13 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	357
Accounts — Progress in building — Agricultural reports.	
FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN, JULY 13 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	357
Military returns — Soldiers' clothes — Adoption of Indian dress.	
A RETURN OF THE SIX COMPANIES OF THE 1ST VIRGINIA REGIMENT ENCAMPED AT RAYS TOWN UNDER THE COMMAND OF LT COL STEPHENS, JULY 12 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	359
FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE, JULY 14 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	360
Letter and goods from Mr. Richard Washington — Election news.	
FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET, JULY 14 <sup>th</sup> . . . . .	360
Accident to soldiers — Military orders — Asking advice — Adoption of Indian dress — Military affairs — Disgust with Cherokees — Forgotten letter.	

---

FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN, JULY 14TH . . . . .	363
Deserters—Sickness.	
FROM MR. EDWARD HUBBARD, JULY 17TH . . . . .	363
Desires to be in the Light Horse—Expresses gratitude to Colonel Bouquet.	
FROM GENERAL JAMES SINCLAIR, JULY 19TH . . . . .	364
Military goods.	
FROM JAMES GLEN, ESQRE., JULY 19TH . . . . .	365
Acknowledgments—Description of Camp Reas—Desires Washington's presence at Winchester—Expects General Forbes.	
FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN, JULY 19TH . . . . .	366
Colonel Bouquet's opinion of Washington—Military orders—Military accounts.	
FROM MR. EDWARD SNICKERS, JULY 19TH . . . . .	367
Desires payment—Election prospects.	
FROM CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER GIST, JULY 20TH . . . . .	368
Military affairs—Cherokees.	
FROM THE HONBLE GOVERNOR FAUQUIER, JULY 20TH . . . . .	369
Victory at Louisbourg—Military accounts—Opinion of Indian allies.	
FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH, JULY 20TH . . . . .	370
Orders fulfilled—Sickness—Asking advice—Military goods—Condition of garrison—Election prospects—Victory at Louisbourg.	
FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQRE., JULY 20TH . . . . .	373
Asks that the sick be left in Fort Loudoun—Election prospects.	
FROM CAPTAIN BOTOMWORTH, JULY 20TH . . . . .	375
Successful scouting—Highlanders—Victory at Louisbourg—Death of Lord Howe—General Abercrombie—Military goods—General Forbes—General Stanwix.	
FROM CAPTAIN WALTER STEUART, JULY 20TH . . . . .	376
Commission—Appointed Brigade Major—Desires transfer.	
FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, JULY 21ST . . . . .	377
Friendly—Partiality shown Pennsylvania—News from Louisbourg—Adoption of Indian dress—Social affairs—Election news—Tobacco.	
FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART, JULY 23RD . . . . .	380
Preparation for attack.	
FROM CAPTAIN JOHN MCNEILL, JULY 24TH . . . . .	381
Announcement of election.	
FROM GABRIEL JONES, ESQRE., JULY 24TH . . . . .	382
Congratulation on election.	

FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH, JULY 24TH . . . . .	382
Loss at Ticonderoga — Death of Lord Howe — Victory at Louis- bourg — Indian allies — General Forbes.	
FROM COLONEL THOMAS WALKER, JULY 24TH . . . . .	383
Congratulation on election — Illness — Commissary affairs.	
FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH, JULY 24TH . . . . .	384
Description of election.	
FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE, JULY 25TH . . . . .	385
Accounts — Congratulation on election.	
FROM CHARLES DICK, ESQRE., JULY 25TH . . . . .	386
Congratulation on election — Captain Woodward's debt.	
FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQRE., JULY 25TH . . . . .	387
Illness — Election — Building at Mount Vernon — Victory at Louisbourg — William Pitt.	
FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART, JULY 25TH . . . . .	388
Congratulation on election — Military affairs.	
FROM CAPTAIN RUTHERFORD, ESQRE., JULY 26TH . . . . .	389
Congratulatory.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., JULY 17TH . . . . .	390
Loss at Ticonderoga — Death of Lord Howe — List of officers killed and wounded — Friendly.	
FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQRE., JULY 26TH . . . . .	392
Inclosing paper.	
FROM COLONEL GEORGE MERCER, JULY 27TH . . . . .	393
Military affairs.	
A WEEKLY RETURN OF THE SOLDIERS LEFT AT FORT LOUDOUN UNDER THE COMMAND OF LIEUT. CHARLES SMITH . . . . .	394
FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET, JULY 27TH . . . . .	395
Military orders — Military affairs — Appoints an interview to dis- cuss the road — Neglect of Quartermaster-General.	
FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH, JULY 26TH . . . . .	397
Election accounts — Smallpox.	
ELECTION ACCOUNTS . . . . .	398
AN ALPHABETICAL POLL FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, TAKEN THE 24TH DAY OF JULY, 1758 . . . . .	401
FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN . . . . .	410
Military affairs.	

## LETTERS TO WASHINGTON

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FROM THE HONORABLE SPEAKER ROBINSON.

W<sup>M</sup>BURGH Nov: 16. 1756

DEAR SIR/

I recd your Favours by the express and am extremely sorry to find you are made so uneasy in your Duty; while you are venturing your Life and fortune for the good of your Country, to be aspersed and censured by a vile and Ignorant Scribler,<sup>1</sup> I must confess is sufficient to raise the indignation of every Gent of Spirit, and no Man can blame you for shewing a proper Resentment at it, but my Dear Sir, as you justly observe in your Letter, consider of what fatal Consequence to your Country your resigning the Command at this time may be, more especially as there is no doubt most of the Officers will follow your Example, and then our Frontiers must be left exposed to cruelties and Barbarities of our merciless Enemies, and therefore I hope you will allow your Ruling Passion, The Love of your Country, to stifle your Resentment at least till the Arrival of Lord Loudoun or the meeting of the Assembly

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<sup>1</sup> Referring to rumors circulated to the disparagement of the army, charging the officers with gross irregularities and neglect of duty, and indirectly throwing the blame upon Washington. The malicious tales seemed for the moment to receive public countenance. See Note, vol. i. p. 382.

when you may be sure of having Justice done You. Who those of your pretended friends are that give Credit to the Malicious Reflections in that Scandalous Libel I assure you I am ignorant, and do declare that I never heard any Man of Honor or Reputation speak the least disre<sup>s</sup>pectfully of you or censure your Conduct in the least, and I am sure there is no well wisher to his Country, that would not be greatly concerned to hear of your resigning, and therefore I must repeat my wishes that you will continue still in the Command. I could not possibly get the money signed to dispatch to M<sup>r</sup>: Mercer before this day tho' I have applied myself as closely as possible, considering the Multiplicity of Business I have been engaged in. I am with the greatest sincerity

D<sup>r</sup>: Sir

Your Aff<sup>e</sup>: friend & Serv<sup>t</sup>:

JOHN ROBINSON

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Nov<sup>r</sup>: 16<sup>th</sup>: 1756

SIR —

Y<sup>r</sup>: Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup>: I rec<sup>d</sup>: with a Report of Y<sup>r</sup>: Journey along our Frontiers — The Abuses mention'd in Y<sup>r</sup>: I have been made acquainted with from several Hands; but I expected You wou'd have been more particular in regard to the Officers neglecting their Duty, & the different Forts not being properly garrison'd with Men — nay with<sup>t</sup>: their Officers: this vague Report makes it impossible for me to call on the Delinquents — I agree the Militia Law is very

deficient, and I hope the next Assembly will make proper Amendments.

The Charges attending the Militia of Augusta is monstrous, & I believe a great Imposition on the Country; I have sent up Money & order'd a strict Scrutiny to be made into each Officer's Acc<sup>t</sup> & the actual Service done by their Companies — I pity the <sup>poor</sup> Inhabitants, Maj<sup>r</sup> And<sup>w</sup> Lewis has my Orders to bring the Militia into better Order.

The establishing of Regulars wou'd be very agreeable to me, but where are the Men to be got<sup>n</sup> when You have not been able in a twelve M<sup>o</sup> to compleat Y<sup>r</sup> Regm<sup>t</sup> — Commissions <sup>granted</sup> to Rangers upon producing Subscriptions was only to those that went Volunteers with<sup>t</sup> Pay, the others were by proper Reco<sup>m</sup>endat<sup>s</sup><sup>1</sup>

I have repeatedly wrote Lord Loudoun the Necessity of an Offensive War, & an Expedition to the Ohio with the Assistance of our neighbouring Colonies, but no Answer, I hope to see him here this Winter. — I am of Opinion the String of Forts pro-

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<sup>1</sup> "The wretched and unhappy situation of the inhabitants needs few words, after a slight reflection on the preceding circumstances, which must certainly draw after them very melancholy consequences without speedy redress. They are truly sensible of their misery; they feel their insecurity from militia preservation, who are slow in coming to their assistance, indifferent about their preservation, unwilling to continue, and regardless of everything but their own ease. . . . I promised at their particular request, to address your Honor and the Assembly in their behalf, and that a regular force may be established in lieu of the militia and ranging companies, which are of much less service, and infinitely more cost to the country. Were this done, the whole would be under one direction, and any misbehaviour could never pass with impunity. Whereas the others are soldiers at will, and in fact will go and come when and where they please, without regarding the orders or directions of any. And, indeed, the manner in which some of the ranging captains have obtained their commissions, if I am rightly informed, is by imposture and artifice." — Washington to Dinwiddie, November 9, 1756.

pos'd in only weakening our Strength, & will be a poor Defence to our Frontiers — I hope You will keep the Ind<sup>s</sup> properly employ'd — Maj: Lewis has Orders to send up the Cherokees — You seem to Attribute Neglect in me, in not having proper Conductors, the Charge is unmañerly, as I did what I tho: proper, tho' disappointed by the villanous Trad-ers.<sup>1</sup> — You have a Quantity of Ind<sup>n</sup> Goods at Fort Cumbld̄ for Your distributing among the Indians as You see proper; & Maj: Lewis will send You some Ind<sup>n</sup> Guns for the Catawbias.

There is no Exception in the Act of Assembly giving Premiums for Scalps — C: Spotswood is paid for the one he sent down, the Method of paying them is by Law, and must be adhered to, or can I see much Inconveniency in it.

I cannot propose any means to replace the Drafts I wish You cou'd engage them to list — You know how far short the Officers have been of complying with their Promises when Commission'd — You have a Right to agree with the Workmen employ'd on any Public Works.

If You had sent down the Am<sup>o</sup> of the Money due for the Servants enlisted, I wou'd have given a War-rant for the Money — It's probable I might have refus'd Paym<sup>t</sup> to the Masters of some of the Servants enlisted, for want of Certificate, but never said You did not act properly in enlist<sup>s</sup> them — but surely You cannot think I cou'd order paym<sup>t</sup> with<sup>t</sup> an Acc<sup>t</sup> from You.

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<sup>1</sup> "I am very sorry any expression in my letter should be deemed unmannerly. I never intended insults to any; on the contrary, have endeavoured to demean myself in that proper respect due to superiors." — Washington to Dinwiddie, November 24, 1756

M<sup>r</sup> Walker when last here determin'd to continue Com̄issary, with the Assistance of his Depty one M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford, he then had some Money, & C<sup>t</sup> Mercer brings more for that Service — You mention Y<sup>r</sup> having made choice of a Person for that Employ, with<sup>t</sup> sending his name for my Approbation, if Walker declines, which is irregular, & I cannot consent to it;<sup>1</sup> — The same in regard to a ~~Cap<sup>t</sup>~~ Chaplain, You shou'd know that it's necessary his Qualificat. & the Bishop's Letter of License shou'd be produc'd to the Com̄issary, & Self, but this Person is also nameless.<sup>2</sup>

I rec<sup>d</sup> the Opinion of the Council of War in regard to Fort Cumb<sup>l</sup>d; as it was an Affair of great Consequence I call'd the Council for their Advice, & I enclose You my & their Sentiments thereon — In consequence thereof I hereby order You im̄mediately to march one hundred Men to Fort Cumberland, from the forces you have at Winchester, which Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer says are 160 listed Men [mutilated] are to remain at Fort Cumberland, & make the Place as strong as You can in Case of an Attack; You are to send out Parties from the Fort not absolutely necessary for its defence, You are to send them to Winchester.

You are to order one of Your subaltern Officers (on whom you can confide) to Command at Winchester, and to oversee the finishing of the Fort building at that Place

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<sup>1</sup> "I should not have presumed to have appointed a commissary, had not your first instructions been plain and explicit on this point, and reiterated letters since that invested me with power. The omission of the name was a neglect indeed accidental, not designed." — Washington to Dinwiddie, November 24, 1756.

<sup>2</sup> "When I spoke of a chaplain, it was in answer to yours. I had no person in view, tho' many have offered; and only said, if the country would provide subsistence, we could procure a chaplain, without thinking there was offence in the expression." — Washington to Dinwiddie, November 24, 1756.

These Orders I expect You will give due obedience to & I am with Respect<sup>1</sup>—

Sir

Your most hble Servant

ROBT DINWIDDIE

P. S. I have sent a Copy of the Council of War Proceedings to Lord Loudoun—

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*A Council of War*

held at Fort Cumberland October 30<sup>th</sup> 1756. in pursuance of an Order received from Colonel George Washington; agreeable to an Order from Governor Dinwiddie; to consult whether it is most for the advantage of His Majesty's Service, to keep or demolish Fort Cumberland.

PRESENT.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colo: Adam Stephen, President.

Capt. W <sup>m</sup> Bronaugh	Capt. Hen. Woodward
Capt. Rob <sup>t</sup> Spotswood	Capt. Cha <sup>s</sup> Lewis
Capt. W <sup>m</sup> Peachy	L <sup>t</sup> Peter Steenbergen
L <sup>t</sup> Austin Brockenbrough	L <sup>t</sup> James Baker
L <sup>t</sup> Mordecai Buckner	Ens. W <sup>m</sup> Dangerfield
Ens <sup>n</sup> Edw <sup>d</sup> Hubbard	Ens. Nath <sup>t</sup> Thompson
Ens. Charles Smith	Ens. Jn <sup>o</sup> Lawson
Ens. Griffin Pert	

In the first place, the particular situation and structure of the Fort was considered—namely,—Its being built of Stockades about nine feet high above ground and never intended for defence against Artillery—That it is commanded by a rising ground

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<sup>1</sup> Washington bore with patience and fortitude Governor Dinwiddie's impracticable and contradictory orders; but on occasions he strongly remonstrated. In reply to this order, he observed: "So, if I comply with my orders, which I shall literally do, if I can, not a man will be left there to secure the works, or defend the King's stores, which are almost wholly removed to that place."

about 150 yards N. W. of the Stockades, and overlooked by several Hills within cannon-shot; so that no person can move about the place without being seen. This is verified in the instance of a french spy lately taken; who gave an account exactly of the number of Sergeants and Soldiers in the Garrison. — That the Barracks are without the Fort; ill-built, & easily set on fire by the enemy; as any number of men can come under the banks of potomac and Wills Creek, within pistol shot of the Barracks, and fort itself, without being exposed to a shot from cannon or small arms. — That notwithstanding its small strength & situation it is the only place to the southward of Albany, exposed to an attack from Cannon, as there is no other road for Carriages of any kind, leading thro' any pass of the Alleghany mountains. — That there is no water to be had, except from the river or creek, — to the latter of which there is a subterraneous passage opened lately, but not to be depended upon, without a strong Garrison to defend it. — Secondly: As to the situation of Fort Cumberland respecting Virginia in particular, it was considered — That it was a great distance from the inhabitants, and consequently the more difficult to be supplied with provisions, &c. — That a strong Fortress with a numerous garrison situated somewhere toward the head of the waters of patterson's creek, wou'd contribute more to the immediate protection of the Frontiers, as that wou'd be nearer the inhabitants, and as near the enemy and warriors paths, much frequented by scalping parties of them, designed against the Virginia frontiers. — Thirdly: Upon consideration of the situation of Fort Cumberland, as it regards His Majesty's Service, and virginia, maryland, and Pennsylvania, in general. — It appears, that a strong Fortress near that place, or more advanced towards the enemy, well garrisoned, is absolutely necessary, and wou'd be of the greatest service for the protection of the Frontiers of the three Colonies for the following reasons. — 1<sup>st</sup> The nearer we are to enemy, well supported, the more will they dread our incursions; and we the more easily command the passes of the alleghany mountains. 2<sup>d</sup> It appears to us the most imprudent step, to leave the only road fit for wheel-carriages, in the power of the enemy. — — 3<sup>d</sup> — The command of the River Potomack, being one of the principal objects which the enemy has in view on this quarter is by all means to be guarded —

Their being master of *it*, wou'd forward their designs, & help them to penetrate more readily into the Heart of the Country. It is to be observed, that it is only about 76 miles land-carriage, from the river of Monongehela to this place, & that the advantageous navigation by small craft and battoes, is well known to the french 4<sup>thly</sup>— That Fort Cumberland is about 30 miles from Rayetown, on the Frontiers of Pennsylvania, thro' which passes an indian road, much frequented by the enemy, marching against that province, and the Frontiers of Maryland: That it is not much farther from the waters of a creek called the Loyal Hanan, alias Camihony; upon which lies the common hunting ground of the Indians as they march to and return *from* War — That the infesting these roads and interrupting them thereabouts wou'd contribute most of all to the protection of the three provinces, next to making incursions into the enemy's Country, and going against their Towns. —

It has likewise been considered, that the moving the Guns, &c. from Fort Cumberland to Winchester would raise the spirits of the Enemy, and encourage them to make a vigorous attack upon some of the small Forts, and the Inhabitants of the Branch. That it wou'd be leaving everything to chance, and running the greatest risque of losing all, to move them to any other place on the frontiers, before provision is made for reception of the Stores, and mounting of the Cannon. — In case they are removed to Winchester, there is the greatest reason to think, that the whole South Branch Settlement will break up, and that the neighbourhood of Winchester, nay even to the blue-ridge of mountains, will in a short time be as much depopulated, as the neighbourhood of Fort Cumberland is at present. After a deliberation of two days on the above circumstances — the Question on being proposed — What was most advisable to be done? It was unanimously agreed as follows, viz! That being sensible of the great advantages of a strong Garrison in Fort Cumberland, or at a place further to the westward, to His Majestys Service — that Garrison with equity to be supported and maintained by the three provinces as it would contribute equally to the protection of all, and be of the greatest service, in case of an expedition carried on from potomack to Ohio in the Spring. Fort Cumberland and the Store-houses there wou'd be particularly useful; but in the mean-

time, to pretend to maintain a Fort most exposed to an attack of any on the continent, with a Garrison of 160 men, and the place not proof against Cannon, would be ridiculous & absurd.

The matter being of so great importance, it is possible, that on a just representation of circumstances, His Excellency, The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Earl of Loudon, will give orders about strengthening His majesty's Fort at Wills Creek and reinforcing the Garrison ; so as to make it useful in covering the frontiers of the three provinces. We also are of opinion, that as the designs of the Enemy against this place may be retarded for some time, by the late capture of a couple of their *Spies*, and that their Intelligence received from Deserters, will be rendered of less effect, from the pulling down the Redoubt, and erecting a sort of — — in another place — That it is most advisable to apply to Colonel Washington for an immediate reinforcement to the Garrison — That some of the most valuable Stores, not immediately useful for the defence of the Fort, be removed to Winchester. That the works begun for the strengthening the Fort, by Orders of the Commandant, upon hearing the Enemy were on their march against it, be continued — and that we defer giving our Judgment with respect to keeping or demolishing Fort Cumberland — the *only* fort belonging to His Majesty on this Quarter — and desire that our consideration of the case, and narration of circumstances, be transmitted to Governour Dinwiddie, to whom, or to His Excellency, the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Earl of Loudon, we leave the decision of the fate of Fort Cumberland — Resolving in the mean time to maintain it as far as lies in our power, until we receive Orders on that head, — begging that we may do so as soon as possible : Having certain intelligence of the enemys designs against us, as soon as it shall be in their power to attack us. —

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*Remarks on the Council of War Viz.<sup>1</sup>*

Upon receiving Orders from His Honour Governor Dinwiddie to hold a Council of War upon the necessity of continuing or dis-

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<sup>1</sup> These "remarks" by Washington were inclosed with the report of the council of war to the governor.

continuing Fort Cumberland — I immediately directed Lt Col. Stephen (it being impracticable to attend myself, while absent on a tour reviewing the southern frontiers) to summon the Officers of that Fort, and the neighbouring Garrisons to take the affair into their serious consideration. Their sentiments in my opinion are fully & impartially delivered on the other side, both in respect of its condition, situation & importance, as respecting Virginia, & the provinces of Pennsylvania & Maryland in general. The situation of Fort Cumberland is extremely unsuitable for defence, and in no ways fit for fortification — and a fort somewhere in that neighbourhood, rather more advanced to the westward, well fortified and strongly garrisoned, wou'd contribute much to the mutual safety & interest of these three Colonies — Because it secures the only gap of the Alleghany at present made passable for wheel carriages, and which wou'd forward an Expedition to the Ohio. Now, wou'd the three Colonies consent to furnish proportionable supplies for so beneficial and salutary a design — I shou'd think it highly expedient to maintain that pass by erecting a Fortress of strength towards the Little Meadows, in advance to the Enemy, which wou'd give us yet more advantages, and Fort Cumberland wou'd still answer its present purposes, without attempting its improvement while covered by the other. Or shou'd Virginia herself take the weight of this Enterprize — or could it be accomplished by any means whatever, — I shou'd be extremely fond of the expedient. But to view Fort Cumberland in its present defenseless posture, relative to Virginia in particular, — and at this gloomy juncture of affairs — I cannot entertain any favourable sentiments of supporting *it* for these reasons Viz: — 1<sup>st</sup> 'T is evident the Maryland Assembly have given up all their lands above the Tonollaways, by building Fort Frederick below — ordering in the Inhabitants above — and withdrawing their Troops from Fort Cumberland. — From *them* we may expect small succours — and what hope we may have of Pennsylvanias aid, towards this salutary purpose; I am yet to learn. They have large & extensive frontiers, and have hitherto acted on the Defensive.

2<sup>ly</sup> — Fort Cumberland lying in the province of Maryland, & remote from our Settlements, can of course contribute little to their protection; without a numerous garrison is kept therein to

detach strong parties to reconnoitre at a distance, and way-lay the enemy almost at their own homes, as there are various paths that lead to the inhabitants, without coming near Fort Cumberland.

— 3<sup>ly</sup> Fort Cumberland being in Maryland, it prevents a great part of our Force from acting there, in consequence of an Act of Assembly, prohibiting those Troops to march out of the Colony. These forces, thus restricted, are to be discharged the 1<sup>st</sup> December; by which means not only Fort Cumberland, but many other places will be rendered so weak (without immediate supplies; and how easily these are obtained, I appeal to sad experience) that their conquest wou'd be easy, if attempted. — Lastly — As to the Works — they are already well described, as quite insufficient to resist a common *swivel*; and must require new improvement, if continued; which wou'd be better bestowed on a new and more suitable situation: And without the Conjunction of the two provinces to carry on this proposal, it wou'd be next to impossible for Virginia (which has hitherto defrayed the charge, and refuses any further supplies for that purpose) to maintain and support His Majestys fort under their present feeble force. For, by putting a Garrison there of strength requisite to defend it, and keep up the difficult communication with the inhabitants at so great a distance, wou'd employ more than half our men, and of consequence unguard the rest of our frontiers. —

As to the Address of the council to me for a reinforcement they must have known that it was out of my power to grant *it*. The Garrison at that place was appointed in consequence of a former council of War; and a large proportion of our force allotted to act on the defencesive here. Whilst the remainder were divided for the protection of other places; which wou'd be equally unadvisable to leave open and exposed.

Upon the whole; were it at any other time than this — knowing the *weakness* of our *strength* — doubting the assistance of our neighbours — and dreading the consequence of leaving the place longer exposed, altho' great part of the Stores is already removed — I shou'd vote for demolishing it. But the affair being of great importance, I only offer my sentiments; and submit to his Honor the Governor, and the approaching Assembly, for a determination of the case.

*At a Council held Novem<sup>r</sup>. 15<sup>th</sup> 1756.*

## PRESENT

The Governor

John Blair		Peter Randolph
William Nelson		Philip Ludwell Esq <sup>r</sup>
Thomas Nelson		M <sup>r</sup> Commissary
Philip Grymes		William Byrd Esq <sup>r</sup>

The Governor was pleased to communicate to the Board a Letter from Colonel Washington dated at Winchester the Ninth of November, with his Observations on the Situation of our Frontiers ; and inclosing a Copy of the Council of War held in behalf of Fort Cumberland, with his Sentiments on the Matter. Upon reading which the Governor desired the Opinion of the Council, whether it would be adviseable in our present Circumstances to demolish Fort Cumberland, or reinforce it with a Number, and what Number, of Men, from the other small Forts. The Council having maturely considered the Affair were unanimously of Opinion by no means to abandon that Fort, as it would be giving up a large Extent of Country, but to reinforce it with a Hundred Men from Winchester ; that Col. Washington be directed by his Honor to reside at Fort Cumberland ; make the Fort as tenable as possible ; and frequently send out strong Detachments to reconnoitre the Motions of the Enemy.<sup>1</sup>

A true Copy

NATH<sup>l</sup>. WALTHOE CL. COU.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> With this view of the subject Washington concurred, but was still of opinion that a better position ought to be chosen, and suggested that it should be in advance of Fort Cumberland, and somewhere in the vicinity of the Little Meadows. This he thought a proper enterprise for the combined efforts of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, as the main object was to facilitate an expedition to the Ohio, or prevent an irruption of the enemy into either of those colonies. — SPARKS.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Walthoe, Clerk of the Council, Brock describes as an eccentric bachelor, and a warm personal friend of the second William Byrd, of "Westover," to whom he presented a fine portrait of himself, wearing his hat, and stipulated that it should be hung amongst others of distinguished personages possessed by Colonel Byrd. It is still in the possession of the Harrison family at "Lower Brandon," James River.

FROM JOHN CARLYLE, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA Dec<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1756D<sup>R</sup> SIR

I was fur<sup>d</sup> with yours of the 30<sup>th</sup> Ulto, & Observe Your directions Ab<sup>t</sup> Your orders for London finery depend they Shall be Executed with the Greatest Exactness — Cap<sup>t</sup> Thompson is here & has Agreed to take half the Tobacco to Y<sup>t</sup> Namesake, he has Gott the Tobacco that is here & as fast if more Comes it Shall be Ship<sup>d</sup> — I am Afraid We Cannot gett You Good Crop Tobacco under 14  $\text{Pc}^t$  but will get You the Quantity mentiond & Such as Shall be known to be Good On the best Terms We Can —

What You Mention Relating My Accompts Your not Examining them here, Need be no hinderance & Anything Wrong may be Rectify'd, as to the Letter you mention it Was Wrote before I went to Williamsburg, & I then had Not Seen the Gov<sup>r</sup> he tells me I must keep in my own hands to pay my Self for I Shall gett No More from the N<sup>o</sup> Ward for My pay & Storage, S<sup>t</sup> John S<sup>t</sup>Clairs Acc<sup>t</sup> With Me is Not Above the Sum You Mention & at that time I Wou'd Given Up All for the Ballance of My Acc<sup>t</sup>, but now I am Not Willing to doe So As My pay as Store keeper is Near  $\frac{1}{100}$  More & think With justice I shou'd make the most of them, & you must be Clear from any Reflection When the Comittee Will See the Vallueation & In My Letter the dates Was Not Thought of, tho' they Included S<sup>t</sup> John S<sup>t</sup>Clairs Acc<sup>t</sup> & If the Officers themselves are to pay It I Must Apply to them I have Receipts for every

Bushell that was Deliver'd, & If you please to Lay the Acc<sup>t</sup> before the Com̄itee I must be Satisfy'd With their Determination —

As to the List of Tools &c I have made Enquiries & find I can Gett the Greatest part here and Shall go to Annapolis for the Remainder I am at A Loss as to the Quantity & Sorts of Cartridge paper but will Send up Sum of both Sorts for the Price sent, the Season of the Year Is too far Advanced to depend on Sending to <sup>Philadelphia</sup> ~~Annapolis~~ as the Passage may be Nearly Stopped by the time I Can gett their & back & dare Say I Can Gett All the Most Material Artickles to Come Up by the Return of the Wagons Next Week —

I dare say you may depend on back loads for Your Wagon as the Rice, Rum & Wine, the Railes You formerly Order'd, the Tools & the Cloathes dayly Expected will be many Loads for Several Wagons —

I Can gett 100 Blankets of the Right Sort of Cap<sup>t</sup> Copethon & More Phaps If Necessary, but as the Country <sup>has</sup> ~~wants~~ A large Quantity <sup>coming In</sup> & they are dayly Expected Cannot You Wait Yett A little Longer —

The People In Winchester have Reason to be In Fears & Phaps More of this Collony may have the Same Reason, Occation'd by that, fatell Order of the G<sup>—</sup> & C<sup>—</sup>l,<sup>1</sup> Cannot A party of Militia In Frederick be Gott together in the Town Wh by A

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<sup>1</sup> Governor and Council.

Proper Application to the Governor they might be  
Released from other County's Militia —

My Comp<sup>ts</sup> to Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpatrick & I am  
D<sup>r</sup> Sir Y<sup>r</sup> obliged humble Ser<sup>t</sup>

JOHN CARLYLE

P. S. the Inclosed is A Copy of A Letter M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>.  
Carty Lodged in My hand as A Voucher for Me to  
Deliver him Provisions for his Recruits As I Wou'd  
Not do it Without & I Send you this Copy for y<sup>r</sup>  
Satisfaction You may burn it after perusal — he has  
only 5 Yett Come In —

J. C.

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FROM CAPTAIN PETER HOG.

STAUNTON 8<sup>th</sup> Dec: 1756

SIR/ I am favoured with yours of the 15<sup>th</sup> Accom-  
panying the £500 with which I have paid off the  
Company to the Last of Oct: as also the Wages of  
the party working on the fort the rest has been Ex-  
pended in paying the provisions Bought at fort Din-  
widdie. But as Lieut. Bullet has Laid in a Large  
q<sup>ty</sup> of Beeff, there Is yet a great deficiency of Cash  
to pay off the Whole, I imagined you would Left  
particular Orders respecting the provisions of that  
Garrison, as that at Vanses has not been provided in  
any more than a Sufficiency to Support the Men  
there a Short Time, I should be glad to know  
whether I am to Remain at that place during the  
Winter or to Repair to f<sup>e</sup> Dinwiddie, If the former  
I hope you will order me, my proper Command, as  
you are Sensible that <sup>it</sup> is more necessary on Roanoke

than Jackson's Riv<sup>r</sup>; particularly as the Militia from the Neighbouring Counties are drawn off by the Governors Orders and some Obstacles hinder the Augusta Militia from Supplying their place at that Garrison, which is now very Weak on that Acco<sup>t</sup>; I am thus far on my Way to Wmsburg to Endeavour a Settlement of my Acco<sup>ts</sup> with the Committee on my Return shall be glad to Receive your Orders where I am to be Stationed this Winter, and how the Deficiency of the money for provisions is to be Supplied, & where I am to Meet the Comiss<sup>y</sup> & pay Mast<sup>r</sup> to Settle the Acco<sup>ts</sup> agreeable to your Instructions the Time I will fix as soon as possible after my Return. I am with great Respect

Sir/

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> &

Very Hum<sup>l</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

PET<sup>R</sup>. HOG

P. S. I have Enlist<sup>d</sup> some Servants If agreeable to you should be desirous to have your Orders If I may pay the Valuation to their Masters P. H.<sup>1</sup>

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*At A Council held Decem<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1756.<sup>2</sup>*

The Governor was pleased to communicate to the Board, and to desire their Advice upon, a Letter from Col. Washington dated from Ford Loudoun the 2<sup>d</sup> of this Instant, signifying his appre-

<sup>1</sup> As Governor Dinwiddie had forbidden Washington to enlist any more servants until further orders, Captain Hog was directed accordingly.

<sup>2</sup> The Council, from the year 1680, constituted an upper house of the Assembly. The position was one attended with many privileges, and was deemed a high honor. A member of the Council was exempt from taxation; he was a judge, colonel of his county, and usually engrossed the offices of emolument in the colony, — naval officer, collector, auditor, and farmer of the quitrents. — BROCK.

hensions that the Order of Council of the 15<sup>th</sup> of last month will be productive of many Evils, and inclosing, the Returns of their Strength at Winchester, amounting to Eighty One Effectives, exclusive of the Drafts. Also a Letter from his Excellency the Right Honorable the Earl of Loudoun, dated from Fort Edward the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, signifying he should immediately write to Col. Stanwix to send off directly proper Officers to Virginia for recruiting; that he concur'd in Opinion with his Honor for supporting Fort Cumberland this Winter; that he can't agree with Col. Washington, in not drawing into him the Posts from the Stockade Forts, in order to defend that advanced one; and imagines much of the Frontier will be exposed, by retiring the advanced Posts near Winchester.

Whereupon it was the Opinion of the Board that the former Order of Council for reinforcing Fort Cumberland with One Hundred Men should be carried into Execution; but, as that Number can't be supplied from Winchester, where they think it necessary a Hundred Men should remain with a proper Officer, that all the small Forts, except that on the South Branch commanded by Cap<sup>t</sup> Waggoner, should be evacuated for that Purpose.

Copy

Teste

N. WALTHOE Cl Cou.

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG, Dec<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1756

SIR/

Your Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> by Jenkins I rec<sup>d</sup> two Days ago, & observe its Contents, the Returns of Your Strength at Fort Loudoun surpriz'd me, when I consider'd that Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer declared to the two M<sup>r</sup> Nelsons & the Speaker, that You had there 160 enlisted Men which with the fifty Servants recruited after, I

VOL. II

tho: You might have march'd 100 Men from thence for reinforcing Fort Cumberland, & left a sufficient Garrison at Fort Loudoun; but as Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer's Information was wrong, I on receipt of Y<sup>r</sup> Letter call'd the Council, not caring to act in an Affair of that Consequence without their Advice, Copy of the Minute of Council You have enclos'd; by which You may observe, that it's tho: absolutely necessary to reinforce Fort Cumberland; at same Time to leave a proper Garrison at Winchester; in order thereto it's further thought proper to call in the Forces from the Stockade Forts, to qualify You to march a proper Number of Men to Fort Cumberland, & to leave a proper Garrison at Fort Loudoun with Officers suitable, also to appoint a Person to command, who may continue the Finishing of that Fort, to employ Artificers for that Service, & with him to leave Money to defray that Expence, paying for Waggons, & any other contingent Charges; to be accountable to You, by producing Vouchers for his Payments, which I think will answer the same as if You was personally present.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Governor Dinwiddie first ordered Washington to march from Fort Loudoun to Fort Cumberland more men than he had under his command at the former post, and still to leave a number sufficient to keep up the garrison and continue the works. When this order was countermanded as absurd and impracticable, another was issued for calling in all the men at the stockade forts, sending 100 to Fort Cumberland, and retaining the same number at Fort Loudoun, by which means the smaller forts essential for the defense of the people would be evacuated, and a large number of men left unemployed. A third order was necessary to remedy the blunders of the other two, by intrusting the matter to the discretion of the commander-in-chief. Governor Dinwiddie's settled determination to sustain Fort Cumberland, contrary to Washington's opinion, betrayed him and his council into a series of hasty resolutions and wild mistakes; and, as Sparks further notes, it is no wonder that Washington should complain, as he often did, of the confusion and inconsistency of his orders. Cf. Washington's reply, Ford, *Writings of Washington*, i. 397.

I am glad the Stores of every kind are brought from Fort Cumberland, excepting those indispensably necessary to be left there — Why did not You send me a particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Quality & Quantity of each? which I desire You may supply me with to be sent to Lord Loudoun — Upon evacuating the Stockade Forts, the Forts may be left standing for service of the Inhabitants, if they think proper to garison them with their own People.

Since my last to You I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun, a Paragraph thereof in regard to Fort Cumberland is as follows. “As to the Affair of Fort Cumberland; I own it gives me great Uneasiness, & I am of the same Opinion with You, that it was very material to have supported that Fort this Winter, & after that, we cou’d easily have made it a better Post than ever it has been, from what I hear of it; I cannot agree with C<sup>o</sup> Washington in not drawing into him, the Posts from the Stockade Forts, in order to defend that advanced one; & I shou’d imagine, much more of the Frontier will be expos’d, by retiring Your advanc’d Posts near Winchester, where I understand he is retired, for from Your Letter, I take it for granted, that he has before this executed his Plan, without waiting for any Advice; If he leaves any of the great Quantity of Stores behind, it will be very unfortunate; & he ought to consider, that it must lie at his own Door — This Proceeding, I am affraid will have a bad Effect as to the Dominion; & will not have a good Appearance at Home.”

By which You may observe his Opinion in keep-

ing up that Fort; no doubt he has been inform'd from some of the Officers the Situation & Consequences thereof.<sup>1</sup>

M<sup>r</sup>: Walker has been here lately, who says his assistant, M<sup>r</sup>: Rutherford, has contracted for flour sufficient for 1000 Men for twelve Months, & no doubt M<sup>r</sup>: Walker is with You before this, with whom consult for Supplies to Fort Cumberland — And I hope from the above Regulation You will be able to leave so many in Garrison at Fort Loudoun as to afford a proper Convoy for Provisions, & on occasion a Number may be sent from Fort Cumberland to meet them on the Road — It gives me pleasure that going to Fort Cumberland is so agreeable to You, as without Doubt it's the proper Place for the Commanding Officer.<sup>2</sup>

There were many Indian Goods left by C<sup>o</sup>: Innes at the Fort, enquire into the Distribution of them, & what remains order a particular Acc<sup>t</sup>: of them, to be sent me, to be compared with the Invoice left by him

You may observe that it's thought absolutely necessary to support Fort Cumberland & Fort Loudoun with a proper Number of Officers & Men, which I

<sup>1</sup> Lord Loudoun's remarks, notes Sparks, as applied to the acts and designs of Colonel Washington, are literally without meaning. Having never visited Virginia, he had no accurate knowledge of the transactions in question, and his remarks were based on the state of the case as represented to him by the governor.

<sup>2</sup> Washington, after stating many reasons why, in his estimation, Winchester was the proper place of residence for the commanding officer, had said: "Some, Sir, who are inclined to put an unfavorable construction upon this generous recital, may say that I am loath to leave this. I declare, upon my honor, I am not, but had rather be at Fort Cumberland (if I could do my duty there) a thousand times over: for I am tired of the place, the inhabitants and the life I lead here; and if after what I have said, you should think it necessary that I reside at that place, I shall acquiesce with pleasure and cheerfulness, and be freed from much anxiety, plague, and business."

expect You will give due Attention to & give Your Orders accordingly.

I am sorry the Catawbas only propose staying one Moon longer, I hope You will be able to prevail with them to stay the Winter; You do well in giving them good Usage, it is also my fix'd Inclination; but their Demands are unreasonable, let them know that for the Cherokees, consist<sup>s</sup> of forty Men, I bought only two Horses to carry their Baggage; Soldiers march on Foot,—if they want one or two Horses You may purchase them— There are some Goods in Augusta under the Care of Maj: Lewis, from thence they may have some Supplies:— I propos'd sending Lieu: M:Neil to command the Men for the Garison built in the Cherokee Country; if the Catawbas will not remain longer, is not he a proper Person, with an Interpreter to convey them Home? by his return probably shall have occasion to send out the Men as above. —

As to Silver Trinkets for Wrists & Arms, they were never given but to the Chief Warrior of the Party; but if they are determin'd to go, let them know on their return, I shall oblige them with every Thing in my Power that's reasonable; And write Maj: Lewis to supply them with Necessaries for the present from the Goods under his Care.

If You have paid the Masters of the Servants You have enlisted from the Money in Your Hands, send down an Acc<sup>t</sup> thereof & I will give a Warrant for the amount to Your Order— I hope the Cherokees are with You before this; & Arms for the Catawbas, Maj: Lewis having my Orders to that purport—

Since writing the above I rec<sup>d</sup> Yours of the 4<sup>th</sup> The Villainy of M<sup>c</sup>Carty is without Precedent, & I think he shou'd be taken into Custody to answer for his Intentions to encourage a Desertion from the Regiment, & on Tryal & Proof will undoubtedly be severely punish'd — He applied to me for his Discharge from the Regiment, which I told him I wou'd not grant, but if You discharg'd him I wou'd approve of it; after that he applied for a Commission to enlist men for the Royal Americans, but if I had known his Intention he shou'd not have obtain'd the Commission — If Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer shou'd be so lucky to apprehend the Deserters, I think an Example shou'd be made of two of the Ringleaders, to be shot, after being properly tried, which I now impower You to do; or the whole to take their Chance by throwing the Dice; one or two of them to suffer for Example & Terror to others.

In the mean Time I desire You will in my Name recall my Comission from M<sup>c</sup>Carty, I know not where to write him, but if at Alexandria, our Friend C<sup>o</sup> Fairfax will do the Necessary, & I desire You to write him accordingly.

I have some Petitions from the Inhabitants of Winchester & Frederick County which I cannot comply with, as Your last Orders are by Advice of the Council & agreeable to Lord Loudoun's Opinion, which I desire You strictly to comply with but on the Regulation sent You they will have no Reason to complain; as a proper Garison is directed to be left at Winchester, & I hope that Step will be agreeable to the Inhabitants — they shou'd not know

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any Thing of the Orders sent You till ready to be  
put in execution —

I remain with Respect

Sir

Your most hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

P. S. The enclos'd Letter for M<sup>c</sup>Carty forward  
by a safe Opp<sup>ty</sup>. I wish you may get all the Men  
M<sup>c</sup>Carty has enlisted —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Dec: 15<sup>th</sup> 1756

SIR

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> I have rec<sup>d</sup> — I am glad C<sup>t</sup> Mer-  
cer has brought back sixteen of the Deserters, upon  
Promise of Pardon, which I agree to on Your  
Recommendation ; but I hope You will make them  
sensible of their Crime & that they are pardon'd on  
Your Solicitation

You recomēd Mess<sup>rs</sup> Carlyle & Ramsay to be  
Commissaries in the room of M<sup>r</sup> Walker, which I  
by no means approve of — the first resign'd when  
formerly appointed, & when most wanted ; I do not  
incline to give him that Opp<sup>ty</sup> again ; the other I doubt  
not is a Gentleman of Capacity, but a Stranger to the  
Business, & not sufficiently acquainted with the Peo-  
ple to make Purchases therefore not eligible.

M<sup>r</sup> Walker has a very good Character for Probity  
& Capacity, I have therefore order'd him to continue

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in his Office, & I expect You will give him Your Countenance & Advice; & supply him with the Money, sent up by Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer, appropriated for the Purchase of Provisions;— I have order'd him to send M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford with You to Fort Cumberland, & he to remain at Winchester to do the Necessaries there; I therefore expect You will give him all the Assistance in Your Power; it wou'd be cruel to superceed him after he has made such large Contracts for supplying Your Regiment, & at this Time of the Year to leave it to those not so well acquainted with the Business.

The villainous Actions of M<sup>r</sup> Carty really surprize me, & I shall take Care to make him repent of it. I really pity the poor Men this cold Weather for want of their Cloathes, they are daily expected & will be sent up as soon as they arrive.

It is reported here that Lord Loudoun may be expected in a Month, when he arrives I shall give You notice of it<sup>1</sup>— Having nothing to add to my former Orders I remain

Sir

Your most h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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<sup>1</sup> Lord Loudoun was then in New York. Washington had resolved to await his arrival in Virginia, and to lay before him a general exposition of the state of affairs, and if possible to have the Virginia troops put on the regular establishment under the direction of his lordship, as the only mode by which the command of them could be useful to his country, or honorable to himself. — SPARKS.

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FROM THE HONORABLE SPEAKER ROBINSON.

W<sup>M</sup>BURGH Dec: 17, 1756

DEAR SIR/

I recd your favour by M<sup>r</sup> Ramsey and as soon as I could get the Committee together I communicated the Contents of it to them, they were generally of Opinion that the Commissary ought to resign, and they also approved of M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle and Ramsey in Case M<sup>r</sup> Walker resigned, but did not care to appoint them till M<sup>r</sup> Walker informed them himself of his intentions to resign; I am sorry to hear your last Money is gone, and more so that I must tell you that that fund is just exhausted, but will have some ready for you when you send for it I am

D: Sir

Your Most Affec<sup>d</sup> Friend  
and Servant

JOHN ROBINSON

*An Exact Return of Indian Goods at Fort Cumberland Decem<sup>r</sup>. 24<sup>th</sup>.  
1756*

1		Mens Coats
3		Mens Embroidor'd Jaccos
1		Mens Lac'd Jaccos
1	p <sup>s</sup>	Mens Britches
5		Mens Hats Laced
22		Mens Shirts Plain
19		Mens Shirts Ruffled
37		Boys Shirts
13		Mens Worsted Caps
1	p <sup>s</sup>	Garlix
1	p <sup>s</sup>	Stript Holland
4		Hat Feathers
2		Head Feathers
1		Blue Strouds
2	p <sup>s</sup>	Red Strouds
3	p <sup>s</sup>	White Plains
1 $\frac{1}{2}$	p <sup>s</sup>	Blue Plains
2 $\frac{1}{2}$	p <sup>s</sup>	Red Plains
3	p <sup>s</sup>	Embossed Flannell
1	p <sup>s</sup>	Stript Flannell
3	p <sup>s</sup>	Stript Calimania
5	p <sup>s</sup>	Stript Stuffs
34	p <sup>s</sup>	Wom <sup>r</sup> Stockings
11	p <sup>s</sup>	Gartering
8	p <sup>s</sup>	Ribbon
6	p <sup>s</sup>	Terret Silk
4	p <sup>s</sup>	Bed Lace
16	Let	Coll <sup>r</sup> Thread
8	s	Medals
1	"	Calicoe Patrens
22	Doz	Brass Rings
18		Auls
2	Doz	Fire Tongs
3	Doz	Bullet Molds
3		Pistles
14		Swords
5	Doz	Scalping Knives
4		Clasp Knives
26		Bundles Small Beads
140		Bundles Large Beads
19	p <sup>s</sup>	Razor Wire
12	p <sup>s</sup>	Large Wire
14	p <sup>s</sup>	Sleeve Buttons
36		Silver Tasles
18		Gold Tasles
7	Let	Vermilion Red
4		Leggons
1	Bagg	White Wampum
200	"	Black Wampum

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Dec: 27<sup>th</sup> 1756

SIR

Yours of the 19<sup>th</sup> by Jenkins I rec<sup>d</sup> last Night & do observe You have ordered the Garisons on the Branch to Perceall's, to escort the Flour to Fort Cumberland.

The Provisions lying in Bulk at the different Forts if possible shou'd be Smoked, which wou'd be a great Saving to the Country, & I hope You have ordered it so. — As we have had great Rains lately I hope a sufficient quantity of Flour may be secured, as M<sup>r</sup> Walker told me he & his Assistant had contracted for as much as wou'd serve our Forces twelve Months.

The Orders given You at first, were on Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer's repeated Assurances of Your having 160 enlisted Men at Winchester, which, with the Servants You mention'd to be enlisted, I conceived You cou'd march 100 Men from Fort Loudoun to Fort Cumberland, but by the Return You write 'of only 85 Men at Fort Loudoun — It was thought proper to call in the Forces from the Stockade Forts to garrison the above Forts compleatly; but not knowing Your Numbers in those Out-Forts I gave general Orders to call them all in, however after Garisoning Fort Cumberland & Fort Loudoun properly, the Surplus Men You are to fix at any Forts You think proper between the above two Forts, & where You think they may be of most essential Service.

I am surpriz'd M<sup>r</sup> Walker shou'd leave his Duty after the Assurances made me (last Time he was in

Town) of discharging that Duty with all Diligence. I fear he was not properly countenanc'd, his Probity, Knowledge & Experience makes him as equal to that Service as any in the Country, & as he & his Assistant have made so large Contracts, I shall not appoint another till I have his Reasons for resigning.

Col<sup>o</sup> Stephens had the Keys where the Indian Goods were lodged, & he must render an Acc<sup>t</sup> of them; I have a Copy of the Invoice from Col<sup>o</sup> Innes.

I am of Opinion that Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neill is a proper Person to conduct the Catawbas Home (if you cannot prevail with them to remain some Time longer) & he probably may engage some of their Warriors to come in the Spring. — Cap<sup>t</sup> Pearis & 20 Men, were employ'd to escort the Cherokees and Catawbas, but You may observe how I am disappointed.<sup>1</sup>

I sent Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neill 500 $\text{£}$  to pay the Masters for the Servants enlisted, & order'd him to engage as many as that Money wou'd answer & send them up to You; but I cannot give Directions for enlisting more till I see the Treasurer, to know what Money he may have applicable to that Service.

Fort Cumberland is to be kept as Defensible as You can till the Spring, when I expect Lord Loudoun will give Directions therein, but not to be made Cannon proof unless it can be done at a small Expence, which the Country must pay unless Lord Loudoun otherways directs.

The paragraph of Lord Loudoun's Letter to me, is entirely confin'd to Fort Cumberland, he was affraid You wou'd have evacuated, & dismantled that

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<sup>1</sup> In the number of Indians escorted, "six Cherokees and two squaws."

Fort before his Letter reached me, which wou'd have had a bad Effect as to the Dominion, & no good Appearance at Home — As to the String of Forts he knows Nothing of, or can You, from the Paragraph sent You, think that he either prejudices or has any bad Opinion of Your Conduct, & as Fort Cumberland is reinforc'd he will be much pleas'd.<sup>1</sup>

I confirm my former Leave of Your coming here when his Lordship arrives, as You will be able to give him a good Acc<sup>t</sup> of our Back Country; & I desire You will give the necessary Orders to Your Lieu<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> before You leave Fort Cumberland — And I expect You left Directions with C<sup>t</sup> Mercer to continue the Constructing of Fort Loudoun, & that with all possible Expedition.

I was in hopes the Interpreter for the Catawbas would have serv'd for the Cherokees; however I have sent up the Country to engage an Interpreter — You must keep the Indians employ'd in Scouting, if idle they will be thinking of Home.

I approve of the Leave You have given to Lieut<sup>s</sup> Baker & Lawry, & I shall be glad to see them — I have paved the Way & I expect a good Number of the Tuscaroras & Nottaways early in the Spring, & I think Lieu<sup>t</sup> Baker will be of great Service with those People.

I am in Pain & greatly uneasy for the poor Men's Cloathing — I understand the Treasurer appointed Col<sup>o</sup> Carlyle & M<sup>r</sup> Cha<sup>s</sup> Stewart to provide them, & I hope the first Vessell from London will bring them; the Severity of the Weather & the Work they have

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<sup>1</sup> The governor afterwards thought to add a palliative by this assurance. — SPARKS.

to do gives me Concern when I think of their naked Condition, — I wish You cou'd purchase some Blankets for the present tho' I think it cannot be long before they arrive; endeavour to keep them in Spirits for a short Time longer.

You do right in writing to the Treasurer to provide Money You know I am only to grant my Warrant, & when I see him I shall speak to him on that Head.

I shall be glad to have a regular Return of Your Strength to lay before Lord Loudoun when he arrives — I wish You Health & I remain

Sir

Your humble Servant

ROBT<sup>T</sup> DINWIDDIE

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FROM THE HONORABLE SPEAKER ROBINSON.

Dec<sup>r</sup> 31. 1756—

DEAR SIR/

I am truly concerned at the uneasiness you are under in your present Situation, and the more so, as I am sensible You have too much reason for it, The Resolution of defending Fort Cumberland, and evacuating the other Forts was taken before I knew or mistrusted any thing of the Matter, I must confess I was not a little surprised at it, and took the Liberty to expostulate with many of the Council upon it, who gave me for Answer that Lord Loudoun had insisted that Fort Cumberland should be preserved at all Events, and as we had so few Troops, it could not be done without breaking up the small Forts

and taking the men from them it was to no Purpose to tell them that our Frontiers would thereby<sup>be</sup> <sup>Λ</sup>intirely exposed to our Cruel and Savage Enemy, and that they could receive no Protection from Fort Cumberland, as it was in another Province, and so remote from any of our Inhabitants, and further that by such a Conduct the Act of Assembly which gave the money<sup>solely</sup> <sup>Λ</sup> for the Defence and Protection of our Frontiers — would be violated and the Money applied otherwise than the Assembly intended, yet notwithstanding all I could say they persisted in their Resolution without alledging any other reason for it than that it was in pursuance of Lord Loudoun's desire, it can't be any difficult matter to guess who was the Author and Promoter of this Advice and Resolution, or by whom my Lord Loudoun has been persuaded that the Place is of such Importance, but supposing it was really so, surely it ought to be defended by the People in whose Province it is<sup>1</sup> or at least at the Expence of the three Colonies jointly,<sup>2</sup> and not to leave our own Frontiers exposed for the defence of a Place from which we can't receive the least advantage or Protection, the present unhappy State of our Country must fill the minds of every well wisher to it with dismal & gloomy Apprehensions, and without some speedy Alteration in our Counsels, which God send, the Fate of it must soon be determined.

I am extremely sensible of the miserable situation the poor Soldiers are in for want of their Clothes

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<sup>1</sup> Maryland.

<sup>2</sup> Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

and do from my heart compassionate them for the hardships they must undergo and sincerely wish it was in my Power to relieve them I was in hopes that Cloths would have come in before this time, as I saw a Letter from the Merch<sup>t</sup> to whom they were sent for, that they would be shipped the beginning of Oct<sup>r</sup> I think it cant be long before they arrive and I have ordered <sup>them</sup> up to Alexandria as soon as they come, in the meantime I shall use my utmost Endeavours to procure Blankets for the Poor Soldiers.

I am sorry you should have any Occasion for money again so soon, especially so large a Sum, as I dont know how you will be supplied with it, for the money that was given by the Assembly for the Payment of the Forces is so near exhausted that I am very sure that there is not in my hands one third part of the Sum that you say will be wanted to clear you off to the first of Jan<sup>y</sup> and how the deficiency will be supplied or how the Forces will subsist till the Assembly meets in Feb<sup>y</sup> I cant imagine; when Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer came for the last Money he informed the Committee that the reason of so large a Demand at that time was to pay for the Provisions which were laid in for a Year, and for the pay of the men to the last of November, and we were then in hopes that what was left would be near sufficient to pay the men <sup>that would be left</sup> to the last of ~~Feb<sup>y</sup>~~ Jan<sup>y</sup>, and then the Assembly when they met would <sup>make</sup> such further Provision as they should think proper, if any Prejudice should happen to the Service for want of money before the Assembly meets, it must be charged to those by whose

Advice the meeting was delayed so long ; however I will call a Committee to meet on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of next month, as I cant possibly do it sooner, and lay your Demands before them, and shall then be ready to pay M<sup>r</sup>: Kirkpatrick whatever Sum the Com. shall direct. I am

D<sup>r</sup>: Sir/

Your Affec<sup>e</sup>: Friend  
and Obed<sup>t</sup>: Serv<sup>t</sup>:

JOHN ROBINSON

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FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX.<sup>1</sup>

LANCASTER Jan<sup>y</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR

it is with great Pleasure I own the favour of your obliging letter by Cap<sup>t</sup>: Stewart and am much rejoyced to hear of your being in a fair way of recovery w<sup>ch</sup>: is wish'd for by all your friends both for their own sakes as well as that of your Country whose services you are known to have so much at heart

I am told from my Friends in England that his Majesty intends me an Old Regiment but whether

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<sup>1</sup> John Stanwix (nephew to the Brigadier-General Stanwix famous in the wars of Queen Anne) entered the army in 1706, and was appointed colonel commandant of the 60th regiment of Royal Americans, January 1, 1756. The following year he was put in command of the southern district, with his headquarters at Carlisle, Pa. He was appointed brigadier-general, December 29. In 1758, being relieved by General Forbes, he proceeded to Albany with directions to build a fort (called in his honor Stanwix, afterwards Fort Schuyler) at the "Oneida carrying place," on the Mohawk River, on the site of Rome, Oneida County, New York. He was made a major-general, and returned to Pennsylvania in 1759. Repaired Fort Pitt and considerably strengthened it. Resigned in favor of Sir Richard Monckton, May 4, 1760, and returned to England, where he was appointed lieutenant-governor of the Isle of Wight. He was lost at sea while crossing from Dublin to Holyhead, December, 1765.

it is to be here or in Europe is not certain, as these things are often talked of a long time before done that may possibly be my case I have a strong notion that I shall come towards Winchester but hope the Spring will be a little advanced first, if this should happen propose great satisfaction to myself in having the Opportunity of consulting with you on any service I may be Order'd upon, beg you will believe that I am with great truth

D: Sir

Your most Obed: &  
most humble Serv:

JOHN STANWIX

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FROM ALEXANDER LUNAN, ESQ.

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 1757

SIR

By order of Col<sup>o</sup> John Carlyle of Alexandria I send you by the bearer John Spore. Two Marked Bales q<sup>r</sup> 22<sub>a</sub> Rheams of Cartridge sorted. — one long Box cont<sup>g</sup> four X Cutt saws, and 4 Whip saws, with the Handles, Files, Setts, and every thing ready fitted, the Saws are also Sharpd. & as they are extremely well packed up. I hope they'l come safe to hand: they are the very best of the kinds I could meet with in the City, and I daresay will give Satisfaction. As M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle only mentioned Cartridge paper in general, I was at some Loss what to send, but by the advice of some of the Gentlemen of the Army here, I think the kinds will answer, their 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Quires, say Rheams, for the Great Guns. If any thing further of this kind, should be wanted the orders should be more particular. They are from the best hands, the Bills of Parcels of them I send to M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle. they amount to £31. 15. 7. this Curr<sup>y</sup> to his Debite —

They weigh just Five Hundred & Fourty pounds and I have agreed to pay him the same Philip Bush does. which is Twenty Shill<sup>s</sup> & q<sup>r</sup> — & has taken his receipt accordingly. It will always give me pleasure to receive your Commands. being with much respect.

Sir.

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

ALEX<sup>R</sup> LUNAN.

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FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE.

ALEXANDRIA Jan<sup>y</sup> 22 1757

D<sup>R</sup> SIR/

After I had wrote to Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer I find the Wagons Will not Leave The Town before I finish This, In Answer to Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> In<sup>st</sup>. When I Wrote you & Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer I Cou'd give no Guess at the packages Nor coud I tell What Quantity of Wagons Will doe, for the things Under Contract I believe Twelve or fourteen Wagons will doe the other Goods Ordered by Y<sup>r</sup> Letter of June The 20<sup>th</sup> Such as Blankets, Camp Kettles, Canteens Spare Shirts &c will Take at Least Six or Seven Wagons. I Will Observe Y<sup>r</sup> Directions In Sending

Up Sumthing of Every Kind & to the Amount of the Number of Men In Y<sup>r</sup> Return —

Y<sup>r</sup> Brother M<sup>r</sup> John Washington See the Negro's When I purchased & Liked them, & the Owner woud not Take Virginia Paper money at more than Maryland & I dare Say you may Get Bills at 35  $\text{p}^c$  —

I am Next to Observe what you Say Ab<sup>t</sup> the Goods for the Officers, You desired Me to Send for a Quantity of Cloaths & Lace  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$  & Inch Wide of one Patteron, I Immediately Sent for a Quantity that I Allotted for 30 Officers & Several other things, & ordered no Cloath Cheaper than 12/6  $\text{p}^d$  y<sup>d</sup> Which is A Good Cloath When Well bought as I Expect this is When Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer Came here I consulted him & he made Sum Small Alterations Which In my Letter to London by the Next Oppt<sup>y</sup> I ordered, it Was Not Gott to hand When These Goods Came Away & Mr Bowden tells Me the Gorgetts Sashes &c Which I Suppose to be the Remainder of the Shoulder Knotts Woud Come  $\text{p}^d$  Next Ship Cap<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Johnston is dayly Expected, the Subsequent order & our own Goods Amounts to A Large Sum  $\frac{\text{£}}{1500}$  Ster: & Another Reason I had to think I had Sent for Sufficient Cap<sup>t</sup> Jos: Lewis, & I think Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer told Me they was Supply'd & I doubted not Many others also was their is 36 Sword Knots & I expect the Like number of Shoulder Knotts, Sashes, & Gorgetts, the Lace is by Y<sup>r</sup> Direction all of one kind only different Widths, I Never Was Made Acquainted With the Officers Wanting more than One Suit & If I have Lost by

Not having Sufficient Quantity, I am Sorry for it, the Difficulty of Getting bills are Such that I was afraid of Exceeding farther; These Times are Dangerous & A Disappointment might be of bad Consequence

As I knew Nothing of the Officers Leaving money In Your hand & Expected to Stay for my pay Sum time & to Cut Goods or keep A Store is Expensive If the Goods was All Taken of at once I woud be farr from Asking one Penny more than the Country pay Me, I can have 125 <sup>the goods</sup>  $\text{p}^{\text{c}}$  for Any Single Artickles, & 100 <sup>price</sup>  $\text{p}^{\text{c}}$  for half <sup>^</sup> (the Shoulder knotts Excepted) but the <sup>^</sup> I Will Referr to Yourself If the Officers Chouse any Or All of them, & this You may depend they are Well bought, & Cheaper by 75  $\text{p}^{\text{c}}$  Than they Will gett at Philadelphia or any where Else, I am sorry for the disappointment to the Officers; more so than my own Loss, as I Rely Cannot blame Myself having Sent for What I Expected you Wanted, as farr as I thought woud Sell, the only Error Mr Bowden has Committed is the Coursest Blew Cloath 7/6 & Shoud have been 12/6 & as many of the Goods as are Come to hand I think Extreamly Neat & Well bought, Inclosed I Send you A List of the Packages that You May Judge of the Quantity of Wagons Wanted & With M<sup>rs</sup> Carlyles Comp<sup>ts</sup> I am

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Y<sup>r</sup>

Very h<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

JOHN CARLYLE

P. S. I Shall Write you In Answer to y<sup>rs</sup> from ft Cumberland In My Next I have not Now time. —  
J. C.

FROM COLONEL WILLIAM FAIRFAX.

BELVOIR. 22<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR

This Evening I had the Pleasure to receive your Favor of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. I desir'd only a Sketch and You have kindly sent Me an expressive One of what I desir'd to know. Bryan Fx has partook of several merry Meetings and Dancings in Westmoreland and Essex and it's said addresses Miss T—ville. If He succeeds, his Friends may excuse his quitting the Military. A Life that do's Honour to the Worthy and generally rewarded with one's Country's Esteem and Munificence. Those who unjustly and snarlingly Censure whom They can't imitate or equal are to be overlookt and contemnd.

Our last Advices said Lord Loudoun was gone to N. England. Capt. John Clarke from Salem is now with Us on a Visit, and declares if his Lordship appears affable and treats those People in a kind manner They will assure at least 50,000 wel armd & disciplind and with more Chearfulness if his Lordship would lead Them to Qu—k & M<sup>t</sup>—real, rather than cause Them to march the round to Albany as before. This Ev<sup>s</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Carlyle advised Us, He had an Account of three Regiments being just arrived at N. York. I suppose a good Squadron of Ships conveyd them that are to assist any Operations agreed on. Its expectd the present Parliament will enquire after every Mismanagement in the Ministry; Some say the D. of Newc— L<sup>d</sup> An— &c will be impeacht, insomuch that the most vigorous Measures will be

attempted towards regaining our lost Honor in the Mediterranean and at Oswego. I have seen your Regiments Cloathing at M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle's and think them well chosen and made:<sup>1</sup> hope You will soon have them; also the expected Pay as M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpatrick was to meet M<sup>r</sup> Treasurer<sup>2</sup> and the Committee on the 17<sup>th</sup> at W<sup>ms</sup>burg G. Fx, M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle & I lost our Necessarys sent for, being shipt on board the Friendship Capt. Rob<sup>t</sup> Lee bound for Patuxent & sayld with Channel Convoy but in August was taken by a Privateer and carried into Bayonne.

I am sensible y<sup>r</sup> Self, Officers & Men undergo uncommon Difficultys as well in your provisionary Support as in carrying on the additional Works directed. If as I suppose the Workmen were paid some Consideration for what They did and are doing at Fort Loudoun You may expect likewise the same Justice for what You have and are doing at Fort Cumberland, w<sup>ch</sup> the Gov<sup>r</sup> writes Me, Lord Loudoun is desirous by no Means to have dismantled or the Garrison withdrawn. No doubt You cause to be kept regular Acco<sup>ts</sup> of the Soldiers extraordinary Labour and other Incidents. The Revenue of 2<sup>s</sup> <sup>per</sup> Hhd &c under the Disposal of the Gov<sup>r</sup> & Council is I believe mostly exhausted, therefore it may be expected the Assembly will pay the Expences on the Governor & Council setting forth the Reasons and Necessity of their Orders to You. As the Matter

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<sup>1</sup> The regimental dress prescribed in general orders of September 17, 1755, was as follows: "Regimentals of good blue Cloath; the Coat to be faced and cuffed with Scarlet, and trimmed with Silver: a Scarlet waistcoat, with Silver Lace; Blue Breeches, and a Silver-laced Hat, if to be had, for Camp or Garrison Duty."

<sup>2</sup> John Robinson, Esq., Speaker of the House of Burgesses.

appears in this Light, You may think proper perhaps to correspond some Times with M<sup>r</sup> Treasurer letting Him know the Occurrences, what Obstructions and Discouragements when You meet any, As He & most of the Committee if not All, are your Friends and undoubtedly will advise and assist your Endeavours especially whilst acting in the lawful Defence of your Country. As to M<sup>r</sup> Commissary Walker I don't yet know whether He is to continue or who are to succeed. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Carlyle & Ramsay are in Suspence —

Denis M<sup>c</sup>Carty supported by M<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Campbell an Officer sent from the N<sup>o</sup>ward to recruit among Us, comitted several illegal Acts lately at Alexandria, forcing open Doors in the Night time, taking Men out of their Beds and carrying them to their Guard &c w<sup>ch</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpatrick then in Town can particularly acquaint You with. I sent by Him Depositions relating the Facts to the Governor.

M<sup>r</sup> Campbell &c went afterwards to Westmoreland where They acted other gross Enormities countenanced by Col<sup>o</sup> P<sup>h</sup>. Lee. Such Irregularities must obstruct the recruiting Service and cause all Freemen to disesteem the licentious Officers — The Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly is prorogued to Feb<sup>y</sup> — When M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpatrick returns He will inform whether It may then meet or No.

As perhaps You may'nt have Seen th' enclosed relating to the British Ministry, I send it for your Perusal. Please to favor <sup>me</sup> with an Acco<sup>t</sup> of Occurrences as may further happen. G. Fx, his Dame &

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Miss Hannah (Bryan in Westmoreland) heartily joyn  
in wishing You every Felicity, your Station can  
admit. You'l also do me the Justice to believe that I  
am as much as any Person can be

Dear Sir

Your Affec<sup>t</sup> Friend &c

W. FAIRFAX.

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FROM COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS.<sup>1</sup>

SIR,

I received yours by Mr. Buchanan with the cash  
to purchase Mrs Buckner's Carpenter, but as I am  
apprehensive there is a mortgage or some other in-  
cumbrance as I well know that estate is much in  
debt, it will be prudent to act cautiously lest there  
should be any dispute hereafter. I have already  
inquired about the Carpenter and have been informed  
that he will be sold sometime hence, but who has  
the selling of him I know not, Shall be as speedy as  
possible in letting you know how I succeed.

Yours by Lieut. Williams I received with the cash  
inclosed. If I fail in the purchase of Buckner's Car-  
penter I will immediately send mine to your home  
to carry on your building till another can be got.

I am Your Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

FIELDING LEWIS.<sup>2</sup>

Feb. 7, 1757.

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<sup>1</sup> From a copy, the original probably being one of many other autographs given away by Bushrod Washington.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Fielding Lewis was born in 1736, and died at "Kenmore House," December, 1781. He married first Catherine Washington, cousin to George, and afterwards Betty, his only sister. The issue of the first marriage was three sons, and of

John and his lady went from here yesterday on their way to the Bushrod's.

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Jan<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Y<sup>rs</sup> of the 12<sup>th</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup>.<sup>1</sup> — I am very sorry for the Mutiny You mention on the S<sup>o</sup> Branch, & I greatly approve the Steps You took to stop it; I hope the six Deserters have been apprehended & punish'd; — the Persons under Sentence of Death, I hear some of them are Serjeants & Corporals, it's a most aragant Affair in them to promote & countenance Mutiny for which they deserve the Sentence pass'd on them; however take proper Methods to make them sensible of their atrocious Crime; I desire You may pardon them, but some of them for Example shou'd be reduced & put into the Ranks, & others appointed in their room, but this is left to You.

As Your People are enlist'd with the Money rais'd for His Mty's Service, paid with the same, & incorporated into a Reg<sup>mt</sup> in his Pay, I conceive they are subject to the Articles of War, & every other Regulation as His M<sup>y</sup>'s more immediate Regular Forces, in this Opinion the Atto<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> agrees with me.

M<sup>r</sup> Walker has broke his Promise to me, but never intimated any ill Usage from You, I cou'd not im-

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the second nine sons and three daughters. The grave of Mary, the mother of Washington, is on what was then the Kenmore estate.

<sup>1</sup> See Ford's *Writings of Washington*, vol. i. p. 411.

agine his Reasons & only suggested that he might have some Hindrance or Disappointm<sup>t</sup> in discharge of his Duty; I expect him in Town when shall talk with him fully on the Affair; — he sent me an Acc<sup>t</sup> of 690 Annual Charges attending his Duty, besides his own Pay which wou'd be a monstrous Charge on the Country; I therefore intend to put the Victuals in another Channel when the Assembly meets, at present I cannot see any Inconveniency, as Provisions are contracted for to supply You for some Months, which M<sup>r</sup> Walker says were by his Orders to M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford.

As Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup>Neill is at Winchester it will be too long to wait his coming here to go with the Catabaws; — they are an [mutilated]<sup>1</sup> sett of People; I think You was wrong in giving them all Horses. I fear it will be expected by others, I am much plagued & troubled to please them.

M<sup>r</sup> Mercer tells me he has engag'd a number of Servants; — I wrote You to engage no more till I knew where to get Money to pay them; there is none to be had from the Treasury; however if he can put off the Paying for them till April I hope then to supply him for those he has enlisted, I desire him to purchase no more.

I am sorry that Gent<sup>l</sup> cou'd not understand Y<sup>r</sup> Directions in regard to the Ambrozures & I [mutilated] no doubt You made a Draught of the Works for his Conduct. —

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<sup>1</sup> It has been suggested to the Editor to supply these mutilated portions of Governor Dinwiddie's letters from the printed *Dinwiddie Papers*. The object of this edition, however, is to print the originals as they *now* exist in the Washington Collection; comparisons may be readily made.

You have acted properly in evacuating no more Forts than were necessary to reinforce the two Garrisons. — I have the Return of your Strength which shall transmit to Lord Loudoun — Great Clamours here against the many Officers in Commission to com<sup>d</sup> so few Men, & I dare say Lord Loudoun will take Notice of it — I wish You had a better supply of Tools.

Y<sup>r</sup> Letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> I shall answer by Jenkins who I detain till my Express arrives from my Lord I expect him daily as he left N. York the 9<sup>th</sup> of this Month, I shall then be more able to write You, in the mean Time I remain

Sir

Your h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

Cap<sup>t</sup> Pearis says You have order'd his Men to be continued in Pay — I wrote Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis to send them to You to be incorporated into the Regm<sup>t</sup> — I know no Service they [mutilated] at pres<sup>t</sup> — but it seems [mutilated] naked they c<sup>d</sup> not march —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMS<sup>g</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1757

SIR

I detain'd Jenkins here till my Express arrived from L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun.

His Lordship has desired all the S<sup>o</sup>ern Governors to meet him at Philad<sup>a</sup> the 17<sup>th</sup> of this Month, to consult what is proper to be done in these Parts; as

this appears to me the Design of their Meeting I cannot conceive what Service You can be of in going there, as the Plan concerted will in course be communicated to You & the other Officers; however as You seem so earnest to go I now give You Leave; & desire You will give proper Orders at Forts Cumberland & Loudoun, that the Works may be duly carried on in Y<sup>r</sup> absence<sup>1</sup>—

I am in a Hurry providing for my Departure —  
I am

Sir

Your h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>T</sup> DINWIDDIE

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FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT M<sup>C</sup>KENZIE.<sup>2</sup>

PEARSALLS Feb<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1757-

SIR

I have been lately advised by my Friends to take a Step, which though it may tend to my Advantage, may equally prove detrimental if too rashly undertaken. And as I would not enter into an Affair of the Kind, without previously acquainting you with

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<sup>1</sup> Washington attended this meeting, where he met with a flattering reception from Lord Loudoun, who solicited and duly valued his counsels. The result was, however, only a partial fulfilment of his hopes. In the grand scheme of operations, it was decided that the main efforts should be made on the Lakes and Canadian borders, where the enemy's forces were embodied, and that the middle and southern colonies should continue on the defensive. Washington had the satisfaction to find, nevertheless, that his advice was followed in regard to local arrangements. — SPARKS.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Robert McKenzie again applied to Washington to use his influence to procure him an appointment in the regular army of Great Britain in 1760, which was accorded him. In the war for independence he remained upon the British side, and was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill. He was afterwards appointed secretary to General Howe.

it, & begging your Advice; I hope you will candidly impart it to me, by which I shall regulate my Conduct —

The Regiment has been for some Time in a tottering Condition, occasiond by the late Differences; & the Poverty of the Colony has given some small Room to surmise, that at least a Part of the Corps will be soon reduced. Indeed it seems almost certain, that we cannot be long supported; that we have scarce reasonable Hopes of being taken Notice of by the Superior Powers; & then, to put the best Construction upon it, we can hope for nothing more, than bare Thanks for our Services, when the present Exigencies cease.

If this is really the Case, it behoves every Person in my Condition, to push his Fortune in the best Manner he can. Wbg<sup>1</sup> Dependance is too small to maintain me without some other Assistance; And my Desire to enter myself on the military List, inducd me first, to lay aside the Study of that Profession, by which I was to make up the Deficiency.—

To explain myself more fully: the Scheme proposed, is to enter myself a Volontier in the British Troops, whereby I may in Time be introduced to a State of Independence. This (as far as the World goes at present) I know cannot be effected, without the Intercession & Interest of Friends, which Benefit I have not had an Opportunity to cultivate. — If this Step should appear rational & adviseable to you, I hope you will not think it Presumption in me, to beg your Assistance & Favors, & to move the affair

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<sup>1</sup> Williamsburg.

to the Governor, whom I understand you accompany to Philadelphia —

I flatter myself I have not forfeited his Esteem by my Behaviour, since he honoured me with my present Com̄sion, which as it was unexpected, I shall always remember in the most grateful Manner. — If I knew your Sentiments, I should address myself to him instantly by Letter ; but as I shall act accordingly, will postpone it, untill I receive your Answer. —

I assure you upon Honour, that I esteem this Service as much as any Person in it, & would chuse to continue in it before any other, provided, I could make it conform any Way to my Interest. I hope a Regard to that Principle cannot reflect in the least to my Discredit, which (if I am not mistaken) operates in the Breast of the most zealous Patriot.

I must again sollicit your Advice in this Affair, & repeat my Entreaties for you to excuse this Freedom in

Sir

Your dutiful & obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>T</sup> M<sup>C</sup>KENZIE

P. S. On the 15<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> a Party of ab<sup>t</sup> twenty Indians, took a Man nigh Fort Defiance, & chased another. They burnt some Houses, Stacks of Hay, killed several Cattle & A Party went out after them from Fort Pleasant as quick as possible, but I have not heard their Success —

Yours as above

R. M<sup>C</sup>

FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT.

SIR

It is not Agreeable to my Inclinations to be Thus Troublesome as to my Repeated Letters for <sup>Leave to</sup> be Re-  
 moved from this Comp<sup>y</sup> and as it is much against my Inclinations the Continuing ~~it~~ Hope you will Indulge me in this my Last Request. I have Marched the Detach<sup>t</sup> from Fort Dinwiddie to Vass's, and Shall be as Officious as in my power for three Weeks or A month in Carrying on the Works — In which Time I hope there will be An Officer to Relieve me pray Sir Consider the Manner I came to the Reg<sup>t</sup> & Time I had the Honour of Serving under you, & if you do not think proper to ~~give~~ remove me to some other Station hope you will not Refuse me the Liberty of Resigning As being Broke by a Court Martial will give Room for Reflection tho. will submit to any thing you Direct before I stay in the Manner I am — from Sir your most Ob<sup>t</sup> Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

THO<sup>S</sup> BULLITT.Feb<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1757 —

P. S. Serj<sup>t</sup> Wilper Recruited one Morgan he Advanced the money, the Fellow was Entertained 34 day & deserted after receiving Cloths from Serj<sup>t</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> sold<sup>t</sup> was one of the Rec<sup>ts</sup> you see at Fort Dinwiddie and was Taken up after desertion and is now with Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neal Cap<sup>t</sup> Hog refuses to pay for advance money or any Time he was Entertained tho he sent Instructions to us to Recruit all Serv<sup>ts</sup> and others.

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FROM JAMES CUNINGHAM, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

NEW YORK 27<sup>th</sup> Feb: 1757

SIR

I had the honor to receive your letter From Fort Loudoun with one Inclosed to Lord Loudoun who begs that you will excuse his not writing to <sup>you</sup> by this opportunity, the hurry of business which he is in at present having prevented him. His Lordship seems very much pleased with the Accounts you have given him of the situation of our affairs to the South'ard. The good Character given of you by the gentlemen I have met with of your acquaintance makes me wish to have that Honor, & I hope that next Summer will afford me an opportunity, as his Lordship proposes seeing Virginia

Captain Roger Morris General Webbs Aid de Camp desires his Compliments to you.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient

& most humble Servant

JAS CUNINGHAM

*Aid de Camp*

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FROM JOSEPH CHEW ESQ.

DEAR SIR

I arrived here from New London a few days agoe and hearing you was at Philadelphia trouble you with this, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer with the inclosed. I hope

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<sup>1</sup> Aid-de-camp to Lord Loudoun.

and Flatter my Self my Lord Loudoun will Concert such Plans as will Effectually Secure our Frontiers and distress the Enemy, and that he will do that for you which you have so justly merited and let your Command be Equal to your deserts. I am sure I can with truth say I know of none who has done so much for their Country, and been so little Noticed and as yet so Poorly Rewarded — however hope soon to hear it is done to your Satisfaction — our New England *Heroism* seems to be mostly at *an End*.

I have a Brother who has acted as under Commiss<sup>y</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> Walker at Winchester he is young and I hope of a good Disposition, I trouble you with the inclosed for him and Pray the favour of you to show him any — Countenance his Situation may admit of; and give him on my Acc<sup>t</sup> any Friendly Advice you think Proper, I hope he himself will be greatfull, and I assure you I Shall Ever be so, indeed I make no doubt but you will Receive a satisfaction in Showing Favour to a Poor Youth whose Fathers bad economy has turned him into the world to shift for himself, but this subject would be only troubling you with Mellancholly Scenes you have no Connection with.

I am now at M<sup>r</sup> Robinsons, he M<sup>rs</sup> Robinson and his Dear Little Family are all well they desire their Compliments to you.<sup>1</sup>

Pretty Miss Polly is in the same Condition & situation as you saw her — my best Respects to Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer & Stuart accept the same and my most sin-

<sup>1</sup> It was at Beverly Robinson's house, when in New York in 1756, that Washington lodged, and where he was kindly entertained. It happened at this time that Miss Mary Philipse, Mrs. Robinson's sister, was an inmate of the family. We know the deep impression Miss Polly's charms made on the heart of the Virginia colonel; an impression deeper than when, at sixteen, his heart was softened by the graces of his "Low Land Beauty."

cere wishes for your welfare and happiness and be assured that I am

Dear Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOS. CHEW

NEW YORK March 14<sup>th</sup> 1757

*Council held at Philadelphia March, 1757.*

Minutes taken at a Meeting of the Governors of North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Pensilvania, with the Earl of Loudoun, Commander in Chief of his Majestys Forces in North America began at Philadelphia March 15<sup>th</sup> And Continued by several Adjournments to March 23<sup>d</sup> 1757.

The Meeting having been Informed by the Earl of Loudoun that there was a Plan approved of by his Majesty of employing the greatest part of the Troops this Campaign to the Northward, and that he had Invited them to this meeting in order to Concert in conjunction with them, a Plan for the defence of the Southern Provinces whilst the other operations were carrying on.

His Lordship further acquainted them that he was willing to leave for the defence of the Southern Provinces, one Battalion, to be Compleated to one thousand Men, And the three Independent Companys in South Carolina of one Hundred Men each which may amount to 200 Effective Men. And that he thought it Necessary for the Security of the whole that the Several Provinces should furnish by the following Proportions.

Pensilvania . . . . .	1400
Maryland . . . . .	500
Virginia . . . . .	1000
North Carolina . . . . .	400
South Carolina . . . . .	500
Which Joind to the Kings Troops }	1200
Make in the whole . . . . .	5000 men

And the Several Governors, do engage to use their best endeavours with their several Provinces, to raise and Support the above number to Act in Conjunction with the Regular Forces, and under Command of his Majestys General, or the Officer Properly authorized According to his Majestys Regulation.

The meeting taking into consideration the Situation of the Several Provinces, and the Intelligence received from different parts It appears to them, that there is danger of the Enemys making an Attack on the Province of South Carolina, either by Sea from S<sup>t</sup> Domingo, or from the Alabama Fort in the Creek Indians, on the head of the Mobile, for which reason they have agreed that there ought to be Two Thousand Men Employed in defence of that Valuable Province of South Carolina, and to Secure Georgia And that they should be composed as follows —

Five Companys of Regulars . . . . .	500
Three Independant Companys . . . . .	200
Provincial Troops raised by the } Province of South Carolina	500
Provincial Troops from N <sup>o</sup> Carolina . . .	200
Provincial Troops from Virginia . . .	400
Provincial Troops from Pensilvania . . .	200

Making in whole 2000 men

That the said Troops should be put under y<sup>e</sup> Command of Lieut<sup>o</sup> Colonel Bouquet & transported to Charles Town as soon as Possible the Regular Troops and the 200 Provincial Troops from Pensilvania by Sea from hence,

And the 200 Troops from North Carolina to March by Land —

The Earl of Loudoun on the part of the Crown, agrees that he will at the Kings Expence Supply the 200 Men from North Carolina, the 400 Men from Virginia, and the 200 from Pensilvania, with the Kings Provisions, from the time they arrive in South Carolina during the time he keeps them there, but that he expected the Several Provinces from whence they are detached, should transport them there, at the expence of the Province, from where they are sent —

And to prevent any mistakes hereafter arising in relation to any demand that may be made, its agreed that the Several Pro-

vinces shall Maintain the Remainder of the Troops raised by them for the Service in every article, as on this Occasion they are entirely employed in the defence & for the Security of their respective Provinces

And it is further agreed that we the Governors shall in our respective Provinces take particular care to form such Regulations, and to see them properly executed, that in all time coming Carriages for the transporting the Baggage of his Majestys Troops shall be prepared at stated reasonable rates, and that all the Troops of whatever denomination, either passing through our Provinces, or while in fixed Quarters therein, shall in time of Peace be properly Quartered, and in time of War whatever Number of Troops the Commander in Chief may Judge Necessary for defence or Carrying on the General Service shall be Quartered according to Custom or the Exigencies of Service

The above resolutions are agreed  
by the Severall Governors And Signed  
by us in the Presence of the Earl of Loudoun  
his Majestys Commander in Chief

ARTHUR DOBBS

WILLIAM DENNY

ROBT. DINWIDDIE

HORATIO SHARPE

Signed LOUDOUN

It is further agreed that the Remaining 200 Men to be raised by N<sup>o</sup> Carolina are to be employed, a Hundred in Garisoning the Catawba Fort & Fort Dobbs on the back parts of the Colony and the other 100 Men in Fort Johnstown the Fort at Topsail Inlet, And the Fort at Beaufort for Defence of their Coast That the remaining 600 of the Virginia Forces, shall be employed in the following Manner one 100 Men to Garrison Fort Loudoun by Winchester 50 Men to be Posted at Fort Enochs to be Built to Secure the Communication between Fort Loudoun & Fort Cumberland — And the Remainder of those Troops to be Posted for the Security of their West Frontiers and 100 Men at the Fort in the upper Tract 100 Men at Fort Dickeson and 100 at Vass Fort and the remaining 100 men to be sent to the Fort lately Built in the Cherokee Country

That the 500 Men raised by Maryland shall be Posted Viz 300 of them to Garrison Fort Cumberland 150 at Fort Frederick and 50 at Cressops to keep up the Communication between these Two Posts

FROM CLEMENT READ, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>LUNENBURG March 15<sup>th</sup> 1757.

DEAR SIR,

About 10 Daies agoe, there came to my House twenty Six Indians of the Catawbas Nation, with two War Captains, Capt French, or the French Warrior, and Capt Butler, who I sent under the care of Robert Vaughan to Williamsburg where they desir'd to go before they March'd to you.

About 5 Daies agoe, there came to my House 93 of the same Nation with their King, Haglar, after they held a Council, it was determin'd, that the King, with his Brother and Conjuror, shou'd go to W<sup>ms</sup>-burg<sup>also</sup> and that y<sup>e</sup> others shou'd March directly to you; Whereupon, as their Numbers were great, the Country thro' which they were to pass thinly Inhabited, and as the Frontiers might be frightned at such an Appearance of painted Indians, I deemed it necessary to send a White Man along with them, And as Robert Vaughan was gone with the first 26, and as the Nation seem'd very fond of him, I thought I might please them in Sending his Brother Abra

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<sup>1</sup> Clement Read was one of the most influential men in Lunenburg County, as that county was originally laid out. He was appointed in 1745 the first clerk of the court, was county-lieutenant, and burgess for a series of years, first of Lunenburg and subsequently of Charlotte County. He was the ancestor of a numerous and distinguished family. His son Isaac was the lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Virginia Regiment in the Revolution, and died in the service at Philadelphia. His son Thomas was also a leading man in the Revolution, was county-lieutenant of Charlotte, and its clerk for more than half a century. One of the daughters of Colonel Clement Read was the wife of Judge Paul Carrington the elder, and thus the progenitress of numerous distinguished descendants. — BROCK.

Vaughan with these to you, and they seem'd pleas'd that I did.<sup>1</sup>

What I have to desire you Sir, is, that you would please to Satisfie M<sup>r</sup> Vaughan according to the trouble he has taken <sup>& must take</sup> I need not inform you that they are a very troublesome set of people, and their manner of travelling thro' the Inhabitants, must give their Guide a vast deal of trouble & fatigue, And as from this Consideration, & the Necessity of Keeping up a friendship with them, I have taken these Steps, in the Absence of his Honour the Governor, which I hope may be approved of.

As from Information of these Indians, I every day expect, Capt Johnny a Catawba & M<sup>r</sup> Ab̄ra Smith a Virginian, with 200 Cherokees and some more of the Catawba Nation <sup>which I must also send a White Man with as a Guide</sup> I must hope and take the freedom of recommending <sup>^</sup> to you, the paying of M<sup>r</sup> Ab̄ra Vaughan to his Content, otherwise I have reason to fear, We shall hereafter get none to go on this Slavish Service; I need not add, that I am,

Dear Sir,

Your unknown, but  $\overline{mo}$  Obed  $\overline{Hum}$   
Servant

P. S.

CLEMENT READ

I have given Ab̄ra  
Vaughan twelve pounds  
ten shillings, all the money  
I have, to assist him in  
Carrying on to Winchester

C. R.

<sup>1</sup> Washington's theory was that, unless Indians were opposed to Indians, but small

FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

WM<sup>B</sup>BURG 22<sup>d</sup> March 1757.DEAR S<sup>R</sup>

I rec<sup>d</sup> your Favor from Philadelphia dated the 2<sup>d</sup> inst. since which finding the Governor likely to stay there longer than at first expected and many Matters of Government requisite which could not be done without Me I set off from Belvoir and arriv'd here the 17<sup>th</sup> The next Day I was duly qualified in Council as President & Commander in Chief, which has given Me an Opportunity of seeing and treating with Numbers of the Cherokees & Catawba Indians, discoursing with Major A. Lewis & Lieut. Williams on their Affairs. I hope They Will Soon be under your Command as They appear to be of a Warlike Temper and Disposition, fit & willing to encounter any difficult Attack. I shall be very glad to know your Success with L. Loudoun and his Co<sup>m</sup>ands to You in the ensuing Campaign — Tho You may hear of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly's being prorogued to the last Thursday in next Month, yet as Several Things as well for your Regiment as the public Weal of the Colony are wanted to be examin'd, settled and adjusted, We expect the Governor will soon after his Arrivel call & appoint a much earlier Meeting — when We shall be glad to See You and give Testi-<sup>1</sup>mony of our hearty Affection.

As the Cherokees and Catawba Indians appear to Us well attacht to our Interest We are desirous of preserving Them, therefore endeavor to please &

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success was to be expected. He encouraged, therefore, every effort to conciliate both the Catawbas and Cherokees.

satisfy them. We have furnished them w<sup>th</sup> what could be got here: what is yet wanted and you can procure Please to accommodate them and Send <sup>or bring</sup> the <sub>^</sub> Acco<sup>ts</sup> thereof —

Pray remember Me kindly to y<sup>r</sup> Officers and the brave Men of Y<sup>r</sup> Regiment, and continue to believe that I am with all affect Regards

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> assurd, & loving Friend

W. FAIRFAX

P. S. I referr to Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis for pticulars —————

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FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT.

VASES<sup>1</sup> March 24<sup>th</sup> 1757 —

SIR as I have not bin Troublesom to you with ~~my~~ Cilitations on acc<sup>t</sup> of my Brothers preferm<sup>t</sup> make free ~~to Trouble you~~ this Opertunity with Something of that sort.

It may appear uncomēdable for a brother offering anything of y<sup>e</sup> Like In behalf of Another still as he was Very Officious in Recruiting for your Regm<sup>t</sup> (winter was a Year) and Raised fifteen men (the promise of which, was Terms many your Officers obtained their Co<sup>m</sup>issions on) and since have served as a Cadit, this must be sinking a small Country Living, (which is Certain Bread with Frugality & Care), for an Uncertainty while we only Injoy provincial

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<sup>1</sup> Fort Vass (written Voss, Vaux, Vause) was on the Roanoke River, in Augusta County, ten miles from where Christianburg now stands.

Commissions, tho as I am Very Censible my Brother is Very Desirous of serving his Country. Hope you will Take him into Consideration and if Vacancy's & Establishm<sup>t</sup> will admit provide for him, Otherwise Let him know it. Except your Reg<sup>t</sup> is Like to be on a better Footing or he Can Shortly obtain a Com<sup>t</sup> I am Sir your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

THO<sup>s</sup> BULLITT.

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

WM<sup>B</sup>BURG 31<sup>st</sup> March 1757

DEAR SIR

Yesterday by the Return of Capt. Ouchterlony I had the Pleasure to enquire of Him concerning your State and Welfare, but He said the Uncertainty of his coming hither prevented his acquainting You with it: however left You well.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Baker setting off with ~~the~~ about Sixty of the Nottoways & Tuskarora Indians equipt with Arms &c to joyn the Tribes of Cherokees & Catawbas before Sent under the Care & Conduct of Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis & Lieut. Williams will I hope be a welcome Re-inforcement and productive of good Events —

Capt<sup>n</sup> Jack Chief of the Tuskaroras produc'd to Me in Council your Letter of Invitation, wrote by Bryan Fx, who I wish, had not resign'd but continued with You. I will not doubt that You had a kind Reception, from Lord Loudoun, and that his Orders for the Destination of your Regiment will be agreeable to the Corps.

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The Governor came to Town this Day ab<sup>t</sup> 12 o'Clock accompanied w<sup>th</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> Dobbs in seeming good Health and little fatigued. Every Member of the Council is Summond to meet at the Capitol on Monday next, Col. P<sup>h</sup> Lee included lately sworn & admitted. Col<sup>o</sup> Tayloe has also the King's Order and may soon be expected to show it for the Same Purpose. By the Governor's Discourses whatever the intended Disposition of our Troops may be, is to be an enjoin'd Secret: But I suppose You was consulted and thought worthy of being entrusted at least with our Southern Attempts. As I apprehend You will not go up to Fort Cumberland (now expected to be given up to Maryland <sup>1</sup>) before You get Money to pay the Arrears due to the Regiment I have desird M<sup>r</sup> Baker to leave this Letter at Fredricksburg. He has taken kind Care of his Charge and appeard to be of a sober and good Disposition: if wanted, writes a good Hand, and to Him referr for pticulars.

I dont yet know whether the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly will be calld before Time of prorogation the last Thursday next Month.

My best Comp<sup>ts</sup> to y<sup>r</sup> Mother, Bro: Sister and Friends —

I am with all friendly Regards

Y<sup>r</sup> affect & obed<sup>t</sup>

W. FAIRFAX

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<sup>1</sup> According to the plan concerted at Philadelphia for future operations, Fort Cumberland was henceforward to be garrisoned by Maryland forces, and the Virginia troops, provisions, and stores were to be removed to Fort Loudoun. Hence, notes Sparks, Washington's views, as far as Virginia was concerned, were at a late hour adopted, after a tedious winter had been spent, and much money had been wasted on the works at Fort Cumberland.

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Apr. 5<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I hope by the Time this reaches Your Hands that Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe has relieved Fort Cumberland by sending into it a Garrison from his Maryland Forces, if so, this is to order You immediately to send down to Fredricksburg, two hundred Men Officers included, to be transported to South Carolina, under the Command of Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup> Stephens, Captain Waggoner, Cap<sup>t</sup> Joshua Lewis, Lieut<sup>o</sup> John Blag, John Campbell, Peter Stenburgen, & John Hall, with Sergeants Corporals & Drums, & let me know on return of this Express when they may be at Fredricksburg that I may order a Vessell or Vessells to take them in; I desire You may be as expeditious as possible in ordering them down, for by Letters from the Governor of S<sup>o</sup> Carolina, I have reason to apprehend the Enemy have a Design to invade that Province by Sea & Land. I therefore desire You will use double Diligence in having them ready at Fredricksburg, & write me accordingly, that I may do the Necessary for their Accommodation in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina <sup>1</sup>

As You will have a Number of Indians at Fort Loudoun, I desire they may be entertain'd with great Civility, & send them out in scalping Parties to such Places You shall see proper, with such Numbers of Your Men as You can spare, giving Directions to acquire what Intelligence they can procure of the

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<sup>1</sup> Governor Dinwiddie sent these two hundred men, and promised the remainder out of the one thousand men to be raised in the colony. They were never sent.

Enemy & their Motions, keep them constantly employ'd in the Service to the best Advantage.

On my Arrival here I found it necessary to call the Assembly to meet me Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> Instant so that after You have complied with above Orders, & given proper Directions, You may come down bringing a distinct List of each Company in the Regiment, with Acc<sup>t</sup> of Arrears due, and Endeavors may be made to have them compleatly paid ; — by a particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of what may be due to the Men that are to proceed to S<sup>c</sup> Carolina, that the Money may be ready for them before they leave this Colony — I expect an exact Obedience to the above Orders, & I remain

Sir

Your Humble Servant

ROB<sup>T</sup> DINWIDDIE

I intend Cap<sup>t</sup> John M<sup>c</sup>Neill to Command the 100 Men to be sent to the Cherokee Country to garrison the Fort built there — ask him if he can raise that Number of Men in Augusta & the other frontier Counties

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Apr. 7<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> Yours of the 2<sup>d</sup> last Night & must refer You to mine of the 5<sup>th</sup> which I sent You by Express, & doubt not You will receive at Fort Loudoun ;<sup>1</sup> —

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<sup>1</sup> This letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> had miscarried, and Washington had not received it when he wrote his letter of the 2<sup>d</sup>.

The pressing Letter from Gov<sup>r</sup> Lyttleton makes it absolutely necessary to send 200 of our Regm<sup>t</sup> to his Assistance; & I must therefore repeat my Orders for their march<sup>s</sup> to Fredricksburg, & I hope they will be there by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this Month & I am endeavouring to hire Vessells for transporting them to S<sup>c</sup> Carolina & refer You to my Letter by Express — I shall be glad if You can send three Tons of lead Ball to go with them, I shall send 100 b̄s Powder from this.

M<sup>r</sup> Sharpe told me he had wrote by You to Cap<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy to march his Men to take Possession of Fort Cumberland when You withdrew Your Forces from thence, & I was in hopes it wou<sup>d</sup> have been immediately done — No Doubt You sh<sup>d</sup> bring all the Stores belonging to the County from thence, as well as the Indian Goods, and take particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Provisions that they may be replac<sup>d</sup> at Fort Loudoun agreeable to M<sup>r</sup> Sharpe's Promise.

I am fully of Opinion that we comply with the Regulation made by Lord Loudoun in the Disposal of our Forces, therefore they are to be at Fort Loudoun for that Disposition — The Indians must be taken care of, those that went from this were supplied with Shirts Blankets & Legins; I hope You can supply them with some & what may be deficient, with Provisions &c. must be taken Care for when You come here — I think if You are here by the 22<sup>d</sup> of the M<sup>o</sup> will do, in the mean Time order them out in Parties with some of Your Men a Scalping &c.

I leave it to You to dispose of the Troops, after the 200 Men are sent to Fredricksburg, as You shall think most proper till I see You here; — I am very

sensible we have too few Men on our Frontiers, but hope the Assembly will resolve to increase our Numbers by a generous Vote.

I wonder Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe shou'd hesitate in sending Cap<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy with his Men to Fort Cumberland, when he knew You had positive Orders to withdraw our Troops on his Arrival at that Place, & Delays my now prove of bad Consequence.

I have been very much indispos'd ever since arrival here that I can write no more at present, but remain

Sir

Your hble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE.

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FROM MAJOR ANDREW LEWIS.

SIR

I have no Instruction at this time by which I Can Act. I have Been at W<sup>ms</sup>burg Latly as the Governor was not at home Nothing Could be Done, tho I Represented the Distressed Condition of the Frontiers in as Just a manner as in my Power. I was Referd to you Sir for funder Orders. as it was suposed you would Receive Orders from Lord Loudon. my Remaining longer here will be of no Service. I impatantly weat your Orders which Shall be Strictly Observd

When I was at W<sup>ms</sup>burg I heard of 180 Cherokees Coming to Virginia. but has not Since heard ~~any~~ more of them — As there is no Assistance orderd

from Our Nighbouring County Our Forts will Soon  
be Deserted —

I am Sir your Most Obedean Serv<sup>t</sup>

AND<sup>w</sup> LEWIS

AUGUSTA Ap<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1757

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*At a Council of War held at Fort Cumberland April 16<sup>th</sup> 1757.<sup>1</sup>*

PRESENT

Col<sup>o</sup> George Washington, President

Lt. Colo. Adams Stephen

Capt. Tho. Waggener	}	}	Cap <sup>t</sup> Will <sup>m</sup> Bronaugh
Capt. Joshua Lewis			Cap <sup>t</sup> Cha <sup>s</sup> Lewis
Cap <sup>t</sup> David Bell			Cap <sup>t</sup> Henry Harrison

Capt. L<sup>t</sup> John M<sup>c</sup>Neill

The Colonel laid before the Council a Letter which he had just received from His Honor, Governor Dinwiddie, (dated at Williamsburgh the 7<sup>th</sup> instant :) referring him to another letter, by Express, of the 5<sup>th</sup> which had <sup>not</sup> yet come to hand — for Orders and Directions concerning the <sup>^</sup> marching two hundred men to Fredricksburgh by the 20<sup>th</sup> instant, — for the purpose of embarking them for Carolina — Also for the disposition of other Troops for the benefit of the frontier inhabitants : As also, concerning the sending out parties of Soldiers with the Indians. And desired their advice on the most expedient and proper measures to be used in the present situation of Affairs — The Governors letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> without that of the 5<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> being altogether inexplicable.

The Council after duly considering the Governors letter, and weighing the consequences of evacuating Fort Cumberland, before the expected relief shou'd arrive : and thereby exposing the frontier inhabitants to inconceivable danger, — were unanimously of opinion

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<sup>1</sup> Held in consequence of the non-arrival of Maryland's forces.

First, that Fort Cumberland shou'd not be evacuated by the Virginia troops 'till they were relieved by those from Maryland, and the Stores cou'd be removed ; unless more explicit orders shou'd arrive from the Governor, requiring it.

Secondly — That the Detachment ordered to march with the Catawba Indians, to gain intelligence and annoy the enemy, ought not to be countermanded, because it might create Jealouses and uneasiness among the Indians, who earnestly desired to be accompanied by Soldiers.

Thirdly — That, as the French and Indians have already this season committed acts of hostility upon the Inhabitants ; of the Branch ; which had, together with the small force that was posted among them, discouraged the Settlers from planting, and determined a pretty large part of them to move off entirely — It is thought absolutely necessary to post troops upon the said Branch, in order to preserve that valuable settlement — to induce the people to plant a sufficiency of Corn ; and to prevent by that means the vale of Winchester from becoming the Frontier.

Fourthly — That in order to this it is advisable to evacuate the Forts on Pattersons Creek (which serve no other purpose than to secure the communication between the forts Loudoun and Cumberland.)

Fifthly — We humbly conceive, that the measures here proposed by this Council, are, under our present circumstances, absolutely requisite for the good of the Service, and are in no wise contradictory to anything contained in the Governors Letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> whose Intentions for want of the letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, are not to be understood.

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FROM THE HONORABLE MR. SPEAKER ROBINSON.

April 21. 1757 —

DEAR SIR/

It gave me great Concern that Capt Gist went back without carrying a Letter from me in Answer to your several Favours, which he should not have

VOL. II

done had I known any thing of his going, but I never had the Pleasure of seeing him after he delivered your Letter, in compliance to your request in his behalf, I spoke to the Managers for carrying on the Trade with the Indians the only thing that was in Power to serve him in, and they seemed very inclinable to employ him in that Service, but what was the result, or whether that Business was suitable to him I cant tell, as I never saw him after ; As there are three Companies of Rangers to be raised, I should think he would be the properest Person they could fix upon to command one of them, tho' I cant tell when they will be raised as the Gov<sup>r</sup> seems determined not to raise any of them, till the Regiment is compleated, and whether that will be done by the Method directed by our Act, I cant pretend to say, tho' I am afraid not, The Act so far as relates to the raising of the Men you have in the news Paper otherwise would have sent you a Copy of it,<sup>1</sup> The Mutiny Bill that we have passed is copied from the Act of Parliament, and the same Punishments for the same Crimes inflicted the Court Martial to consist of the same Number and to be held in the same Manner as directed by our former Act, the Title of it is "An Act to prevent Mutiny & Desertion,"

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<sup>1</sup> The Assembly passed an act in April, 1757, authorizing a general draft to augment the Virginia forces to 1270 men, including non-commissioned officers. They directed a court, consisting of the sheriffs, justices, field-officers, and captains of the respective counties, the city of Williamsburg and borough of Norfolk, to meet and inquire into the occupation of the inhabitants between the ages of eighteen and fifty, and to "prick down all such able-bodied men within their respective jurisdictions, as shall be found loitering and neglecting to labor for reasonable wages ; all who run from their habitations, leaving wives or children without suitable means for their subsistence, and all other idle, vagrant, or dissolute persons, wandering abroad without betaking themselves to some lawful employment," also deserters drafted under the former act.

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I have now sent by M<sup>r</sup> Boyd Ten Thousand Pounds, Six Thousand of it for the Arrears due to the Officers & Soldiers, and four Thousand for the Arrears due for provisions &c. The Gov<sup>r</sup> by his Warrants directed the Money to be paid to M<sup>r</sup> Boyd, but I told him he must at least deliver that for the Provisions to you, and you was engaged to See most of them paid, and tho' I could not at this time get a Co<sup>m</sup>. to know their Sentim<sup>ts</sup> upon it, I make not the least doubt but they will allow you for your trouble and risque in redividing and paying it away.

M<sup>r</sup> Atkins wrote it seems very pressingly to the Gov<sup>r</sup> to send up Money to pay the Indians for Scalps, and the Gov<sup>r</sup> accordingly issued his Warrant to me to pay £240— for that Purpose, which I have paid tho' not justified for it by the Act of Assembly, for the Act directs that only Ten Pounds for every Scalp should be paid by me, and the remaining<sup>thirty</sup> to be paid at the next Assembly, and the Gov<sup>r</sup> by the Act is desired to buy goods for the Indians to the amount of that Sum of any Person that shall be willing to let them have them [mutilated]<sup>stay</sup> till the Assembly meets to be paid for them, but as I was afraid the Indians, if they did receive the whole, might be disoblighd, and I could tell of what fatal consequence the disoblighing them at this critical juncture might prove, I to send them the whole money and run the Hazard of the Assembly's Approbation.<sup>1</sup> From the Accounts rec<sup>d</sup> by your Express we have but a Gloomy Prospect of our Affairs, and after lulling

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<sup>1</sup> This runs exactly as in the original.

ourselves asleep in <sup>our</sup> Security, and even flattering ourselves with being able with the small force we could raise, to take Fort Duquesne, to be in danger of haveing our Country overrun by a force from that very Place must be a Melancholy consideration to every one that is effected with the distresses and Miseries of his fellow Creatures, who, if the Acc<sup>ts</sup> of the Indians be true, tho' I cant help flattering myself they are exaggerated, must be in the most deplorable Situation when it is considered what a small force we have on foot to oppose them, it would be the highest vanity & Presumption to flatter ourselves with being able to defend ~~them~~ ourselves or preserve our miserable Inhabitants on the Frontiers from destruction, the Militia it seems of Six Counties are ordered out for their protection but I must confess I have no great dependance upon them, but should I be mistaken in them, there can be little hope of their getting together time enough to prevent the mischief, and the only Expectation we can have from them is, they may prevent the Enemy penetrating far into our Country, which if their number is so great as the Indians represent we have too much reason to apprehend, and I am afraid Col. Stanwix and the Forces of our neighbouring Colonies wont use much more dispatch in coming to our Assistance, and then we have only the divine Assistance to rely on, for tho' I am assured that every thing will be done for our Security and defence that can be with so small a force, yet what can be expected from one Man against an hundred, however We must not despond but put

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our Trust in him that is only able to save and protect. That he may guard you in the day of Battle and danger is the sincere prayer of

Dear Sir

Your Affect<sup>d</sup> Friend and  
Servant —

JOHN ROBINSON

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

W<sup>m</sup>BURG 6. May 1757.

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

Capt. Gist tells Me You was unwilling to write as You could Not avoid touching on a Subject that must have lately greatly afflicted Me: And indeed I have been so for near a Week, when submitting to the Apprehension of Bryan being no more in Life and reduced so by the most deplorable & shocking Case, I recd a Letter from Him dated at Annapolis certifying that He was taken up, examin'd and having no Pass was committed as one W<sup>m</sup> Fisher. On the usual Fare among Felons, Runaways, Deserters &c He was Sensible of his Condition and writes to Me by the Post w<sup>ch</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle seeing at Alexandria, suspected the hand Writing, opened and found it to be from lost Bryan; next Day sets off for Annapolis to redeem the Captive, and sent Me Bryan's Letter to the great Relief of my Mind. Thus You will observe how a Youth endeavouring to go from Himself is capable of distressing his affect<sup>d</sup> kindred. I guess Bryan after being twice refused in his Love

Addresses had formed the Resolution to throw himself as a private Centinel in some of the N<sup>o</sup>ern Regulars, and as such to be Conceald. I hope He will return compos'd w<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle, and submit to God's Disposal and the best Manner We can assist. I expect to Set off homewards with G Fx & Dame on Thursday next.

Capt. Gist tells Me that He is dischargd as a Captain from your Regiment w<sup>ch</sup> I did not before know. He has hopes of being some Way employd by M<sup>r</sup> Atkins and says the Governor has desird You to recomend Him accordingly. I have joynd in it and shall be glad M<sup>r</sup> Gist can get any comfortable Support. It begins to grow Dark and I must conclude With wishing You every desirable Happiness as D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> affect &c

W. FAIRFAX

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FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN TO COLONEL STANWIX.

By His Excell<sup>ty</sup> John Earl of Loudoun Lord Mauchline and Farrinyean &c &c &c<sup>1</sup>

To John Stanwix Esq<sup>r</sup> Col Command<sup>r</sup> of the First Battalion of his Majestys Roy<sup>l</sup> American Reg<sup>mt</sup>.

Whereas I have thought it prop<sup>r</sup> for the good of his Majestys Service to put a Body of Troops under your Command, and Whereas it may be necessary during your Absence with the said Com<sup>d</sup> that General Court Martials should be held for the better preservation of Discipline in the said Troops, I do

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<sup>1</sup> Earl of Loudoun and Baron Farrinyean and Mauchline. — *Burke's Peerage.*

therefore by Virtue of the power & Authority to me Given & Grant'd by his Majesty, hereby direct & impower you from time to time to call & Assemble, One or more Courts Martial as there may be Occasion, and to Appoint Presidents of the Same. And I do also impower You to cause the said Sentence or Sentences of the said Court Martial to be put in Execution or Suspend the same as You shall think proper. Except in the Case of Coming<sup>d</sup> [commanding] Officers, which you are to suspend until you receive further Orders from me, And for your so doing this shall be your sufficient Warr<sup>t</sup> & Authority

Given under my hand and seal

at New York the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1757.

LOUDOUN [L S]

By his Excell<sup>t</sup> Com<sup>d</sup>

(a Copy)

J. APPY.

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*Instructions to Colonell George Washington Commander in Chief of  
the Virginia Regiment —*

SIR

You are, as soon as you arrive at Fort Loudoun, to inform the Officers that the Assembly having considered the great expence the Virginia Regiment has cost the Country from the Number of Companies it consisted of, and those Companies not half compleat, in proportion to the vast Charge of Officers — It is resolved, for the better Saving of expences estab<sup>ish</sup>ing a proper Regulation, that The said Regiment shall Consist only of ten Companies, of one hundred Men each — that all the Captains but Seven, be reduced — Those I have thought proper to continue, are Captains Mercer, Waggener, Stewart, Joshua Lewis, Woodward, Spotswood, and M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie — to those Discontinued in the Command of Captains (not from any Particular Miscon-

duct or Demerit imputed) You are to offer Lieutenancys — and Compleat the Number of Lieutenants to Twenty, out of the oldest Subalterns, unless there be some, whose Conduct does not entitle them to the preference — The Ensigns for the Regiment are to consist of ten and to be fill'd up in the same manner, having regard to their Characters and Behaviour —

After the Companys are formed. You are to Occupy the following posts in the following manner, till Your numbers are encreased viz<sup>t</sup>—

at Fort Loudoun 100 Men commanded by Yourself —  
 at Maidstone . . . 70 Men commanded by Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart —  
 at Edward's . . . 25 Men . . D<sup>o</sup> . . by a Subaltern —  
 at Pearsalls . . . 45 Men . . D<sup>o</sup> . . by Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie —  
 In the Nighbourhood of Buttermilk Fort 70 Men . . Comanded  
 by Cap<sup>t</sup> Waggener  
 at Dickenson's . 70 Men Commanded by Major Lewis  
 at Vauss's . . . . 70 Men . . D<sup>o</sup> . . by Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward

450

You are to remain at Winchester, and there use your utmost Diligence and care in forwarding the Public Works, with all possible expedition —

You are to continue all the Assistant Commissaries that are requisite, till such time as The Assembly comes to Some further Resolutions on this head, — and issue your Orders Accordingly —

You are no longer to have concern with, or management of, Indian affairs; The Hon<sup>ble</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Atkin is appointed by His Majesty for that extraordinary Service — He is now repairing to Winchester for that purpose, and will I suppose, if he should be obliged to leave it before the Indians return home, appoint some person to transact the Business in his Absence —

So Soon as The Assembly have resolved on the Ways and Means of raising men I shall advise You thereof, that You may be prepared for their reception — and send Officers to meet them if Ordered so to do. —

Given at Williamsburg this 16<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1757 —

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

SIR

Whereas I have thought proper to discontinue the two pr ct. Commissions, (which the Country Committee have allowed you) for Your trouble, Risk and loss, in receiving and Paying away the Publick Money; settling and adjusting of accounts &c.: I shall only lodge a fund of Money in your hands to answer Contingent Expences; as they shall arise from time to time in the Execution of your Command. —

The Paymaster Commissary and others, are for the Future, to receive Money of Me to answer the purposes of their Calling; and to Me, are they to render acc<sup>ts</sup> of their Disbursements; unless any Person, or Persons with my consent and Approbation, shall be appointed to transact this Business. —

You shall receive your usual Pay; and allowance for your Batmen<sup>1</sup> (as the Committee have fixed it) and the additional Sum of Two hundred Pounds p<sup>r</sup> Annum for your Table and Expences. —

In all other Respects you are to be on the same footing as formerly; and to Act as you heretofore have done. —

Given under my hand at the City of Williamsburg this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 1757.

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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<sup>1</sup> Batmen, or baromen, were originally servants to take care of the horses belonging to the train of artillery, baking, baggage, etc. Men who are excused from regimental duty for the specific purpose of attending to the horses belonging to their officers are called batmen. — *Duane's Military Dictionary*.

FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX.

LANCASTER, May 23<sup>d</sup> 1757.

SIR

His Excell<sup>ty</sup> the Earl of Loudoun having ord<sup>d</sup> five Companys of my Battalion to serve in the back parts of the Southern Provinces and likewise that I am to be Supply'd with Amunition & Millitary Stores from Fort Loudoun in Winchester, to prevent any dissapointm<sup>t</sup> in Carriages I have sent from this place nine Waggons which will be sufficient to bring to Lancaster the following Amunition &c . . . 100 Barrells Gunpowder, 12000 Musquet Flints, .100. Rheams Cartridge paper, .50, pounds of Mueth, .50 pounds Brimstone, .50 pounds Saltpeter, .50. Three pounds Ball, — .3. Tons of Lead — which youl please to Order to be deliver'd to the Waggoners whose names are mention'd in the Warrant herewith sent you of this date with all imaginable Speed, they have-ing und<sup>r</sup>taken without an Escort to deliver these Stores to Edward Shippen Esq<sup>r</sup> (for which you'l please to take their Receipt) at Lancaster, from thence I can as it may be want'd, supply myself at my Camp at Carlisle or between that and Shippensburge, please to send me a list of the particulars you send, as likewise the remains of all the Ammunition Artillery Millitary Stores &c belonging to his Majesty at Fort Loudoun in Winchester, that if the service should require more I may not send for what you have not in Store, I have with me, 2 Brass Cannon, 6 pounders & 1 Brass Canon — 3 pounder — shall therefore be glad to have the

nine Waggon's loaded with as many iron Shot as can be sent (over and above the 50, three pound ball) without over loading the Carriages, and what over addition you send shall return you after the War for the same who am

Sir Your most Obed:  
humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN STANWIX

Since I wrote this letter the Waggoners (who first refused an Escort) have changed their minds and have therefore sent one Serj<sup>t</sup> 1 corp<sup>l</sup> and eleven men —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG May 23<sup>d</sup> 1757

SIR

This probably may be deliver'd to You by the Hon Edm<sup>d</sup> Atkin Esq<sup>r</sup> who has his Majesty's Commission to transact & superintend all the Affairs with the different Tribes of Indians the back of Georgia, South & N<sup>o</sup> Carolina & this Dominion; I desire You will receive him in a genteel Manner, & on his meeting with the Indians now at Fort Cumberland, give a Grace to his Operations by having a Company under Arms when he opens his Commission & talks with them — As the whole Negotiation is left to him he probably may acquaint You with every Thing he transacts with them.

Our Assembly has not fix'd on the Supplies, & in course not yet printed any new Currency, but am told it will be done very soon; & You may assure

the Officers & Soldiers that as soon as Money is coined, I will send up by M<sup>r</sup> Boyd when he comes here, sufficient to pay all their Arrears.

If the Cherokees return Home I think it will be necessary You shou'd send

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[original badly mutilated]

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Self

The Assembly proposes raising 1200 Men & three Compa<sup>ys</sup> of Rangers of 100 Men each, but the Mode for raising them is not yet concerted, & I fear will be attended with great Difficulties.

I am surpriz'd Col<sup>o</sup> Stephen is not come here with the two Companies; by his Letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> he said he shou'd be at Fredricksburg last Sunday was a Week, by which I expected him last Saturday.

I cannot write You any Thing further till the Assembly goes thro' the Business before them, in the mean Time I doubt not You will keep Your Men properly employ'd.

Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neill tells me he has a Ballance of the Money in his Hands that I gave him to pay for the Servants enlisted in Augusta; I have order'd him to pay it to You.

I remain with Respect

[Signature mutilated.]

FROM WILLIAM BALL, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>WILLIAMSBURG May 25<sup>th</sup> 1757D<sup>R</sup> S<sup>R</sup>

Waited on the Governor this day in Company with Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neale, on my applying to him to be paid for my Servant Man Samuel Poe, was directed to you I hope Sir you will think it Reasonable to send Me Fifteen pounds Nothing could induce Me to value Him so low only that he is in my Countrys Services & has behav'd so well as to be made a Serjeant his first cost was  $\frac{6}{30}$  after he had serv'd two years I gave twenty odd pounds, having then five years to serve, He has not serv'd Me one Moment nor have I seen Him since I purchas'd Him, by our Law he would be Oblig'd to serve Me Nine years he has been gone two years last Christmas though at this time can't justly Recollect, Should you not be of Opinion to give Me y<sup>e</sup> above Sum pray put Him in proper Officers Hands to be convey'd to Me in Lancaster cty, I hope D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> you will pardon my troubling you with this, With Due Respect I Am your . . . Very Aff<sup>t</sup> h<sup>le</sup> Ser<sup>vt</sup> &c

W<sup>M</sup> BALL —

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<sup>1</sup> William Ball, of "Millenbeck," St. Mary's, White Chapel Parish, Lancaster County; son of William and Margaret (Ball) Ball, and grandson of William and Hannah (Beale) Ball; married Lettice Lee, daughter of Colonel Henry Lee and Mary, daughter of Richard Bland. He was Burgess for Lancaster County, 1757-58, and a cousin many times removed of Washington.

FROM WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.<sup>1</sup>FORT LOUDOUN, May 24<sup>th</sup> 1757.HON<sup>BLE</sup> SIR,

The Bearer of this is Sergeant Feint,<sup>2</sup> a young fellow who went out with the *first* party of Cuttawba Indians, commanded by Capt. *Johny*, and taken near the french fort at the time we supposed and reported him to be killed, — from the information which the Indians brought in. —

He made his escape from a small Delaware Town on a branch of Muskingum, called white womans creek, — in company with a Cuttawba who was taken when he was. As he is a sensible young fellow, I beg leave to refer your Honor to him for particulars, with regard to his observation on the country; strength of the Enemy, and the *manner* of his escape.

He is now going with my consent to visit his friends. — I have inform'd the disbanded Captains at this place that they were not discontinued from any misconduct that hath been attributed to them: and that you were pleased to offer them Commissions as Lieutenants —, But I have met none who are inclinable to accept of such. I have also dispatched an Express to the Branch, informing the Officers there of your Orders: But have received as yet no answer from them.

I shall endeavor <sup>our</sup> so soon as the regulation of companies is made, to dispatch those destin'd to the

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<sup>1</sup> From Washington's Record Book, 2, p. 152.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Feint or Fant.

Southern Frontiers immediately to their respective posts: and apprehend I shall meet with much difficulty in getting them off before they are paid: as the march of the Detachment for S<sup>c</sup> Carolina was attended with innumerable inconveniences and grievous complaints from their Creditors. —

It seemed to be the intention of the House of Burgesses (when I left Town) to raise a greater number of *Regulars*, and *not* to employ *Militia*

If this plan shou'd be carried into execution, it may employ all the Captains now in the Service, and more Subalterns will be wanted: in which case I must beg leave to recommend the Volunteers in the Regiment that have served 15 and 18 months, in hope of preferment. They amount to eight, in the whole. —

I must also beg leave to mention M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpatrick again to your Honor. As the hurry of Business and other solicitations may have caused you to have forgotten him. I presume to recommend him to your Honor in this warm manner from two motives — First, he has merit to deserve any favor that you may please to confer on him; and secondly, I think myself bound in honor, as well as from inclination to serve him, as I prevailed on him to accompany me, under expectation of an appointment as Commissary of Musters, added to some other Commission, might be worth his acceptance.

I doubt not but your Honor before this is informed, that a party of Cherokees under Warhatchie<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Warhatche, chief of all the Southern Cherokee towns, described by Atkins as "the greatest rogue among them all." See Ford's *Writings of Washington*, vol. i. p. 445.

is come in with 4 scalps and 2 Prisoners:— They<sup>1</sup> are much dissatisfied that the presents are not here. — Look upon Capt. Mercers going off as a trick to evade the performance of the promise that has been made to them — Will not believe that M<sup>r</sup> Atkin is coming and in short, they are the most insolent, most avaricious, and most dissatisfied wretches I have ever

<sup>1</sup> The "presents" were: "A Return of Indian Goods Delivered to the Honourable Col<sup>l</sup> Atkins By Q<sup>r</sup> Master Hamilton

Pieces of Flanin . . . . .	3	Cutlashes . . . . .	13
Shirts . . . . .	25	Blew Strouds Match Coat . . . . .	1
Worsted Caps . . . . .	12	Pr. of Red Legings . . . . .	1
Fethers for Hats . . . . .	4	Pr. of Blew Ditto . . . . .	1
Bags of Wampum . . . . .	2	Britch Clouts . . . . .	2
Paper Box of Tarsils . . . . .	1	Of Paint . . . . .	2 lb.
Laced Hatts . . . . .	5	Pair of Pistols 1 broke . . . . .	1
Peices of Stuff, Irish. fnd . . . . .	5	Pr. of Bullit Moulds . . . . .	21
Yds. of Stript Holland . . . . .	32	Pr. of Fire Tongs . . . . .	16
Peices of Gartering . . . . .	3½	Mocoson Auls . . . . .	16
Coat embroidered . . . . .	1	Pounds of Thread . . . . .	8
Jackets. 2 embroi <sup>d</sup> 1 Laced . . . . .	3	Peices of Ribbon . . . . .	4
Britches of B <sup>d</sup> Cloth . . . . .	1 Pr.	Peices of Bed Lace . . . . .	5
Doz. pr. Womens Sco <sup>t</sup> Hose . . . . .	2	Mederls of K. Geo. 2 <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	6
Yards of Callico . . . . .	6½	Peices of Ferriting . . . . .	6
Doz <sup>es</sup> of Stone Rings . . . . .	29	Peices of Calliminco . . . . .	3
Plain . . . . .	26	Guns . . . . .	18
Hanks of Large Wier . . . . .	10	Tomhawks Plain . . . . .	60
Small Ditto . . . . .	16	Pipe— Ditto . . . . .	2*

N. B. Two of the pieces called Flannel, are embossed Serges.  
 the quantity of wampum is 31,950.  
 the Rings are in all 38 dozen.  
 the Hanks of small wire are 19  
 the Thread is 13.  
 the Tomahawks, plain are 59

Winchester June 5<sup>th</sup> 1757 Rec<sup>d</sup> the above Goods by order of the Honble Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie Esq<sup>r</sup> Lieut<sup>t</sup> Governour & Commander in Chief of Virginia, together with 13½ li. of Cherokee Beads, & 46 dozen of Hawks Bells not mentioned in the above Account

EDM<sup>d</sup> ATKIN his Majestys  
 Agent & Superintendent of Indian Affairs  
 in the Southern District of America."

\* To this point in the handwriting of Q<sup>r</sup> Master Hamilton the remainder in Mr. Atkins handwriting.

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had to deal with. If any thing shou'd detain M<sup>r</sup> Atkins arrival, it will not be in my power to convince them that it is not a mere *hum!*<sup>1</sup>

All the rhetoric I can muster is not likely to detain them more than two or three days to wait this event.

I imagine your Honor must have been much surprized to find so few of the officers whom you had ordered for Carolina with the Detachment. And it was matter of astonishment to me when I found upon my arrival at this place, that Col<sup>o</sup> Stephen had taken the liberty to dispense with your Orders on this point — However, this is not the only instance in which he has used such liberties. —

The Regimental Stores are, by his Orders, distributed among the Indians although I left express Instructions to the Contrary with Capt. Mercer and the Quarter Master when I went from this place. — Had I met with him here I shou'd most assuredly have made him answer for his conduct; which has also been pretty extraordinary in drafting the men for his Detachment.

I am &c.

G. W.

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<sup>1</sup> So transcribed in Washington's Record Book. Humbug?

FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL.<sup>1</sup>NEW YORK June 1<sup>st</sup> 1757S<sup>R</sup>/

I have to inform you I have been at this Place this 7 days, — I have made use of all my Credentials, & got admitted to an Interview with his Lordship — he seemed much displeas'd at my leaving the Virginia Regiment, & I believe it was owing to the influence of y<sup>r</sup> kind S<sup>t</sup> he did not reject me, — being apprehensive I presume too favourable a Reception might encourage others of that Chore<sup>2</sup> to revolt. — I am appointed to Join the 44<sup>th</sup> Regiment & this day embark. — the general Embarkation has been made this fortnight, his Lordship & Admiral Hardy going abroad this Evening, gives the Alarm for sailing — 6000 Regulars. & 500 Provincials with Rogers in 90 sail of Transport, convoy'd by a 50. three 20<sup>s</sup> & a Sloop of War accompanys — an infinite Q<sup>y</sup> of Stores & Provisions — fine train of Artillery, vast q<sup>y</sup> of scaling Ladders — floating Batterys &c. Yet to what Purpose no one can with certainty determine. —

We are this moment alarm'd with an acc<sup>t</sup> from a Vessell just arriv'd, that 6 large <sup>french</sup> men of War, are laying near to intercept us — this acc<sup>t</sup> agrees with others we have before had — how far it may influence his Lordships Intentions none knows, tho' its generally believ'd we sail to morrow — I hope to give

<sup>1</sup> A John Hall married Anne, daughter of Robert and Anne (Meriwether) Bolling. The name of Instant Hall is found among the vestry of Bristol Parish in 1720, and in 1718 a Robert Hall was burgess from Prince George County.

<sup>2</sup> Corps?

you more agreeable news in my next, — while you'd do me the honour to receive my L: I shall not be remiss — that the motions of the Troops under y: Command — may conduce to y: honour & that you may enjoy health & felicity

are the cordial Wishes

of S: y: mos ob: humbl<sup>e</sup> Serv:

JN<sup>o</sup> HALL

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 2<sup>d</sup> 1757

SIR

Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> May I rec<sup>d</sup> Serjeant Fent<sup>1</sup> has given a pretty good Acct of his Remarks at Fort Du Quisne & appears to be a well behav'd Man.

I am sorry to acquaint You that the Bill for Supplies was rejected by the Council, but the H<sup>o</sup> of Burgesses are preparing another which I hope will have a better Fate; they propose augmenting the Forces, but till they vote Supplies Nothing can be done; I shall then consider on what you write abt Volunteers.

I hope M: Atkin is with You long before this & that he will pacify the clamorous & avaritious Demands of the Cherokees.

I was surpriz'd the Lieut<sup>s</sup> order'd by me did not come with the Detachment; Steenbergen was afraid of being arested; therefore order'd Lieu<sup>t</sup> Stewart to go,

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<sup>1</sup> Printed Fant in *Dinwiddie Papers*, vol. ii. p. 635.

as the man of War waited for them & they cou'd not be delay'd. — I am sorry Col<sup>o</sup> Stephens has given any of the Regimental Stores to the Indians without Orders, which he must answer for. He lost 12 Men on his March, they deserted, which I have Reason to think was thro' Carelessness, & brought a great Number of Women & Children, I order'd six Women to a Company, but I believe he exceeded that Number on his Embarkation.

Col<sup>o</sup> Bouquet was here, & on examining the Number of Batmen allow'd to each Company in the Royal Americans, he assur'd me they had but two to each Company, & on Musters &c. they are oblig'd to appear in the Ranks; that Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix has no more allow'd him & undoubtedly You inform'd Yourself of this at Philadelphia — as this is the Case, surely Col<sup>o</sup> Washington cannot expect more than Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix, & I think it was Your Duty to inform me of this, & to conform Your Regiment to the Allowances given the Americans, & pray how shall I appear to Lord Loudoun, on my Report of our Regiment when so widely different from that he Commands? It's true I settled it otherways with You when here being ignorant of the Number of Batmen generally allow'd: — But now I am properly inform'd thereof. You are only to allow two Batmen to a Company, & two to Yourself; — if You have a Livery Servant, he may be allow'd Provisions with the Soldiery — You may observe that I take His Mty's Regulars for a Precedent to our Provincial Forces, & You know the Clamour of the People in regard to the vast Ex-

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pence, & its Your Duty as well as mine to make all prudent Savings.

I remain with Respect

Sir

Your humble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

I refer you to Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neill for Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Wampum & Colours sent by him to be deliver'd to M<sup>r</sup> Atkins for the Ind<sup>s</sup>. I have sent another Jack in Case the other is not found. I have dismiss'd Cap<sup>t</sup> Hogg the Service therefore desire You'll imediately send an officer to take Care of the Fort.

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 6<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> Letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> ☿ C<sup>t</sup> Gist I am sorry the Indians are so refractory, which I conceive is entirely owing to Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer's promising them Presents, which he had no Power or Authority to do —

Those Indians had a sufficient Supply at Bedford Court House agreeable to the Treaty; but their Avarice is such that if they had all their Expectations, they wou'd demand more, & it is a very great Error to make them any Promises whatever, further

than to recommend their Demands without any positive Promise.

As M<sup>r</sup> Atkin is to transact all Indian Affairs, he in course may appoint a Person to act in his Absence — Captain Gist is (I believe) a good Man, but is unhappy that he cannot speak their Language, however You may recommend him to M<sup>r</sup> Atkin & indeed I think when he met him on the Road, he sh<sup>d</sup> have return'd with him — I think whoever M<sup>r</sup> Atkin appoints is to be paid from Home.

The Assembly has pass'd a Bill for augmtg our Forces. — Money for paying Arrears, & all Charges on the Forces now in pay, & those to be rais'd; as it will lie with me to confirm it, You may suppose it to be a Law, & if You will send down the Pay Master, he will have Money to pay them to the 1<sup>st</sup> of this Month.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Bullin's Scheme must be laid before M<sup>r</sup> Atkin & I agree with You that he shou'd be particularly distinguish'd.<sup>1</sup> — I observe Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix has rec<sup>d</sup> from You 100 bls Gun Powder, 3 Tons Lead, 100 six Pound Shott & 1200 Flints — Let me know the Number of Spare Arms & A<sup>m</sup>un now at Fort Loudoun, I fear we shall not have Arms sufficient for the Men propos'd to be rais'd, & when You write to Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix advise with him if he can supply us.

As the Bill pass'd the Council but two Days agoe

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<sup>1</sup> A scheme for bringing in the Creek and Cherokee Indians, which Washington pronounced "worthy of Bullen," a Catawba warrior, of whom he spoke in the most complimentary manner.

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I cannot send You a Copy, but I have order'd it to be printed

I remain

Sir

Your most hble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

P. S. I hope the Men now with You are employ'd in finishing the Fort —.

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FROM RICHARD BLAND, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

DEAR SIR,

I have the pleasure of receiving your letter by Mr Gist; and I assure you I should look upon it as a singular felicity if I could contribute towards perfecting any scheme for the advantage of my country: My endeavours, so far as my influence will reach shall never be wanting. I have the mortification of finding the majority from Home against the most vigorous measures for effectually putting a stop to the French attempts upon our frontiers: But tho' numbers carried it against my opinion I am not yet convinced that an attack upon Fort Du Quesne or a lodgment near that place, with a sufficient force so as to keep them in perpetual alarm is impracticable. This is my favorite scheme; and I should be very glad to hear of its having your approbation.

We have had a dispute with the Council who flung out our first bill of supply, by an equal division of 5

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<sup>1</sup> "Colonel Richard Bland of Jordans."

on each side; upon the question being put for a third reading. This strange conduct under our present situation gave our house great resentment. They voted a severe resolve against the Council, & immediately ordered the same bill under a different title to be brot' in which was passed in two days, & sent again to the Council who gave their concurrence to it upon more mature consideration, so that you are to have this year 1272 men including non commissioned officers to compose your Regiment; and I do not at all doubt but you will do every thing in your power for the advantage of your Country that can be done by so small a force; & I most heartily wish you success in all your undertakings.

Another Bill has passed our House for laying out 5000 $\text{£}$  in a proper cargo of goods to carry on a trade with the Indians for the public benefit under the direction of Col Peter & W<sup>m</sup> Randolph, M<sup>r</sup> Cary, M<sup>r</sup> Walker, & myself. This bill is now before the Council. If it passes into a law, we shall I believe engage with M<sup>r</sup> Gist as Factor, to carry it on: Your recommendation of him will have all proper weight with me & I am persuaded with the other Trustees or Directors.

As I have some thots' of writing an account of our transactions which I desire to communicate to public view in order to wipe off all reflections from my country and the several persons concerned in the conduct of our military enterprizes so far as they can be Justified, I shall take it as a particular mark of friendship if at your leisure hours, if you have any, you would send me the heads of such things relative

to the french invasion with the dates when they happened as you judge most interesting & proper for such a Work. I will speak the truth with boldness & I hope with approbation from every honest and good man, amongst whom I assure you without flattery I place you in the first rank.<sup>1</sup>

I am D<sup>r</sup> Sir, Yr most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

RICHARD BLAND.

WILLIAMSBURGH

June 7. 1757

If I have the pleasure of hearing from you please to direct to me at Jordans in Prince Geo. County.<sup>2</sup>

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FROM LIEUTENANT JAMES BAKER.<sup>3</sup>

FORT CUMBERLAND June 10<sup>th</sup> 1757.

SIR

I Yesterday returned to this place with the Cherokees and have the Satisfaction to acquaint you that on the 5<sup>th</sup> Instant we fell on two Tracks about 35 Miles beyond the three Forks of Yohagany in a small

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. Washington to Dr. Belknap, Ford's *Writings of Washington*, vol. xiv. p. 11.

<sup>2</sup> This print is from the copy deposited in place of the original letter which the editor supposes to be of the number given away after Washington's death.

<sup>3</sup> The original is indorsed, in an unfamiliar handwriting, "From Captain John Baker," and is so indexed among the manuscript letters to Washington. The editor, however, takes it that this letter is from Lieutenant James Baker, as it was he who had been sent out. Washington's opinion of Lieutenant Baker was a high one. His successful encounter with the enemy on Turtle Creek, twenty miles from Fort Du Quesne, elicited Washington's complimentary letter of June 12, 1757, of which the following is an extract: "To Lieutenant Baker: Dear Sir,—I embrace this opportunity of congratulating you upon your safe return; and of thanking you for the services you have done the Public, in your late Scout and Skirmish. I was greatly surprized at not receiving an account of this matter from yourself; but am satisfied there was some particular reason why I did not. For I cannot believe that you who have behaved so well in one respect wou'd be so deficient in your duty in another." — Washington's Record Book, 2, p. 189.

path that led towards this place, we had not followed those Tracks above eight or Ten miles, before we met 10 Frenchmen returning from a Scout, our foremost Indian discovered them first and sat down very cose [close] we all following his example, when the Frenchmen came within about fifty paces they<sup>saw</sup> our Men all Naked, and called to us and ask'd us who we were, at which time we all rising together fired on them which<sup>they</sup> returned, we waited not to lode again, but run in with our Tomahawks the Frenchmen then making of as fast as possible they cou'd, but the Indians out running them took two of them prisoners, the French lost six Men two killed dead on the Spot, two wounded, and two taken prisoners

Our loss tho' fewer in number is greater to us, the Swallow Warrior was Shot dead by a Ball in the head, and another Indian Wounded in both Thighs The Indians was so enraged at the loss of their head Man that it was impossible to save the other prisoner, Among the Frenchmen there was three Officers,<sup>1</sup> two of which was killed and the other we have here. I send the Instructions of two of the Officers here inclosed. We have suffered greatly on our return not tasting a morsel for four days, and carrying the Wounded Man on our backs, I cannot tell when I shall be come down the Indians are not determined

I am

Sir

Your M<sup>o</sup> Ob<sup>t</sup> Humble Servant

J. BAKER.

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<sup>1</sup> "Velistre, Lososais, and St. Oure, all ensigns." — Washington to Stanwix, June 15, 1757.

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN DAGWORTHY,<sup>1</sup>

FORT CUMBERLAND June 14. 1757.

SIR,

Six Cherokee Indians who just now came from Fort Du Quesne, say that six days ago they saw a large body of troops march from that garrison, with a number of Waggon & a train of Artillery, & by their route, must intend an attack on this garrison.

I am, sr, Yr most humble Ser<sup>t</sup>

JNO. DAGWORTHY<sup>2</sup>

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FROM MAJOR JAMES LIVINGSTON, ESQ.<sup>3</sup>

FORT CUMBERLAND 14<sup>th</sup> June 1757

6 at night

S<sup>R</sup>

I am desired by Cap<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy to acquaint you that their is a great body of the Enemy on their way to these frontiers what they intend is not Certain the Intelligence Comes from 6 of Cap<sup>t</sup> Spotswoods party that arrived hear about 3 oClock this afternoon, Says Cap<sup>t</sup> Spotswood left them 10 days ago these 6 Sep-  
rated themself from the Rest and went to Fort Du Quisnie where they stay'd some days and saw the

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<sup>1</sup> Commanded Maryland forces at Fort Cumberland. Governor Sharpe refers to Dagworthy as "a Gent born in the Jerseys, who commanded a company raised in that Province for the Canada expedition, and since the miscarriage of which he has resided in this Province upon an estate which he purchased in Worcester County." He was always a favorite with Governor Sharpe, and, in the expedition of 1758 under General Forbes, commanded the Maryland forces as lieutenant-colonel.

<sup>2</sup> From a copy.

<sup>3</sup> Major in the Maryland troops.

preparations making for the March but Wanting provisions Was forced to Come of to some Distance to fire their Guns as their was ~~little~~<sup>none</sup> to be got by their arrows, they heard a great Gun fired near where the Battle of Mononghela was fought which they had Crosst the <sup>Ground</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Instant and desires all their Brothers to Come as soon as possible to their assistance Lie<sup>t</sup> Baker marched this Day at 11 oClock with all the Indians only 2 left with the Swallows Son which I'm afraid will die, I've wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Baker to detain them at pearshall until they hear from you but am afraid it will not be in his power as they are fully bent to see the Great man that is Come from King George<sup>1</sup> and Expects presents they stay'd but 11 hours after the Letter was Explain'd to them Cap<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy would have wrote to you but being busey in writing to Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix and their Gov<sup>r</sup> had no time You will Excuse my hurry as we are in great perplexity hear at W<sup>ms</sup> I am yo<sup>r</sup> Humb<sup>le</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JAMES LIVINGSTON

P. S.

Since my writing they have made us Sensible that they were on their march with numbers of Wheel Carridges and men innumerable and had marched 2 days befor they quit the Mononghela waters they further say they saw them Cross the Said River and Guns Greater than any at this Fort you ll observe this is Indian news which I Really believe to be true not a white man come in y<sup>t</sup> and says they found a stocking belonging to one white man which Causes

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<sup>1</sup> The Hon. Edmund Atkin.



*At a Council of War held at Fort Loudoun, Thursday, the 16th day of June, at 2 o'clock in the morning.<sup>1</sup>—*

1757.—

Colonel George Washington, — President

Capt <sup>t</sup> Thomas Waggener	} Members	Cap <sup>t</sup> Robert Stewart
Capt. M <sup>c</sup> Neill		Captain Gist
Lieutenant Campbell		L <sup>t</sup> Buckner
Ensign Crawford		Ensign Roy
		Ensign Russell

The Colonel laid before the council a Letter from Capt. Dagworthy, and another which he received from Maj. James Livingston, both dated at Fort Cumberland the 14<sup>th</sup> Instant; signifying that they had just received intelligence from six cherokee indians who went out upon a Scout with Capt. Spotswood towards Fort Du Quesne; that a large Body of French and Indians, with a train of Artillery, were actually marched from Fort Du Quesne with a design, as they conceived, to make an attempt on Fort Cumberland. —

And after laying before them the strength and dispersed situation of the Troops in the pay of the Colony — desired their opinion, whether it was most advisable, with what force we could raise immediately, to attempt the relief of Fort Cumberland, — or to remain here and endeavour to assemble a sufficient force to put this place in a posture of defence, (which is at present not tenable) till we should have further Orders how to act? —

It was unanimously agreed, that, if the French had crossed the monongahela the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, as these Indians declare, it is impossible to assemble our dispersed Troops, and march them to Fort Cumberland before the place is infested — That all our forces, supposing their junction practicable, are so inconsiderable, compared with the strength of the Enemy — according to our intelligence, which can admit of no doubt; as a train of artillery is of too great importance to them to risque with a *small* body of troops; We have great reason to think, that it wou'd be only to expose ourselves to a *certain* defeat; the consequence of

<sup>1</sup> From Washington's Record Book, 2, p. 194.

which would inevitably be the leaving this place (the depository of all His Majesty's and Country's Stores of every kind) naked and defenceless : which wou'd be attended with the immediate Evacuation of the part of the Country, from whence alone subsistence for any considerable number of Troops cou'd be drawn : which at this juncture wou'd be an irreparable loss and probably be productive of the most fatal consequences to this Colony. —

The Colonel likewise desired to know whether the Council judged it most expedient to continue the few troops now at Maidstone, and those dispersed thro' the little Forts on the South Branch — or to order them on the Branch, with the country men in that settlement, to the most advantageous post there, whilst their women & children shou'd retire to the interior Settlements — Or to evacuate the whole, and reinforce these troops here, with their united Garrisons? —

It is the opinion of the Council that as reinforcing this Garrison is absolutely necessary ; the detached enfeebled situation of the Garrisons on the South Branch must make them fall an easy prey to the Enemy ; and that as drawing them all to one place on the Branch would be giving up all that settlement except that place, which (supposing it cou'd be maintained) wou'd by no means be of such consequence as reinforcing this important place — That therefore they ought to be ordered hither immediately.

W <sup>r</sup> CRAWFORD	JN <sup>o</sup> M <sup>o</sup> NEILL	G. WASHINGTON
JA <sup>s</sup> ROY	CHRISTO <sup>r</sup> GIST.	THOMAS WAGGENER
HENRY RUSSELL	JN <sup>o</sup> CAMPBELL	ROBERT STEWART
	MORDEC. BUCKNER	

The following account sent to Colo. Stanwix and Governor Dinwiddie with the Council of War.

FORT LOUDOUN June 16<sup>th</sup> 1757.

The number of men fit for Duty in the Virginia Regiment, exclusive of the Detachment gone for Carolina — where stationed, and the distance of each Garrison from this place.

	Men	Miles
At Fort Loudoun . . .	100	. . . . .
At Maidstone . . . .	60	Distance . . . . . 36
At Edwards . . . . .	16	do . . . . . 22
At Pearsalls . . . . .	35	do . . . . . 50
At Fort Pleasant . . .	30	do . . . . . 70
At Butter-milk Ft. . .	28	do . . . . . 78
At Harness' Ft. . . . .	27	do . . . . . 81
At Powers Mill . . . .	28	do . . . . . 90
At Vass's . . . . .	60	do . . . . . 210
	384	

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 16<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I am to acknowledge the Receipt of Y<sup>rs</sup> of the 10<sup>th</sup> but I am so much hurried that I cannot answer it, but as M<sup>r</sup> Boyd is daily expected by him I shall write You more fully.

Otassity of Ostenaker,<sup>1</sup> conducts thirty Cherokees to You with Intention to go out against the Enemy; — I think he is a brave Indian, & talks much of Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis; I believe he may be prevail'd on to stay with his People all the Summer.<sup>2</sup>

They were desirous that M<sup>r</sup> Gun shou'd go with them & if he goes with them to fight he shall have

<sup>1</sup> Outacite, Outacita, Wootassitie, or Mankiller, king of the Cherokee nation. See *Dinwiddie Papers*; also Ford's *Writings of Washington*, vol. i. p. 457.

<sup>2</sup> The friendship and assistance of the Cherokees were well worth cultivating, and Washington thought that, under the circumstances then existing, they were indispensably necessary.

Lieut<sup>s</sup> Pay if You sh<sup>d</sup> think him a proper Person —  
Excuse Hurry

I am

Sir

Your h<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN DAGWORTHY.

FORT CUMBERLAND June 17<sup>th</sup> 1757 —

SIR

Yesterday in the Evening Six Indians Arrived from Fort Du Quesne who left that Place last Sunday & Brought with them two Scalps which they took within a hundred yards of the Fort, I learn from them that the Fireing of the Cannon & Small Arms which I mention'd in my last was occasioned by a large Scouting Party leaving that Place to come this Way, they say the Indians who came in before made a false Report as to their bringing Waggon and Artillery & Account for it by their being young Warriors & much Frightened, this last Party lay some time in sight of the Fort but could not Discover either Waggon or Horses & but few Men,<sup>1</sup>—

I am sir

Your most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JN<sup>o</sup> DAGWORTHY

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<sup>1</sup> The first letter from Dagworthy had caused a universal alarm. Governor Sharpe had gone immediately to Frederick to send a reinforcement of 500 men; seven regiments of Virginia militia had been called out; and Colonel Stanwix had begun preparations to march to Fort Cumberland with five companies of Royal Americans, and some of the Pennsylvania forces. Stanwix received the second news in time to countermand his orders, but it was some time before the alarm subsided.

FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

DEAR SIR

I received y<sup>r</sup> Express this Morning at Belvoir in Comp<sup>y</sup> with M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Carlyle and soon after Set off hither to consult w<sup>th</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup> West, the Captains Ramsay, Dalton, Terrett &c On which have sent Orders to have the several Companys meet at different Rendezvous to morrow and Sunday, in hopes of making therefrom a Detachment of an hundred Men to meet at M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> West's on Monday night or Tuesday next at Farthest well accoutred except Ammunition which You'l be able to furnish the needful. If You find this Party insufficient We expect to Send more as Requird — Bryan Fx has desir'd a Command w<sup>ch</sup> has been granted, in Hopes his Courage & good Conduct will give Testimony of his Capacity. The manner of his conceald Departure & Recovery He can best relate. He has experienc<sup>t</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> Kindness, therefore need not repeat my Desire in his Behalf — Y<sup>e</sup> late Alarm from Capt. Dagworthy may Serve to put your Soldiery in a fit Posture for Defence, but it seems unlikely the Enemy can Spare many Men from their New Garrison as They must expect to be visited by Lord Loudoun, Gen<sup>l</sup> Webb or Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix. And your present Expectation will undoubtedly engage the Towns men at Winchester and Neighbourhood to assist Your Endeavors to make Fort Loudoun more & more defensible against a common Enemy w<sup>th</sup>out battering Cannon w<sup>ch</sup> they cañot bring this Sultry Season w<sup>th</sup>out stronger

Horses than it may be supposed They can be furnished with —

We desire to be further acquainted with the Occurrences as they happen Wishing You &c every Happiness, The Family at Belvoir & here joyn in all hearty Gratulation and desires that y<sup>r</sup> brave Men may keep the Enemy far from them, So Says

Y<sup>r</sup> very affect. Friend &c

W. FAIRFAX

ALEXANDRIA  
17<sup>th</sup> June 1757.

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FROM EDWARD SHIPPEN, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

LANCASTER 17. June 1757

SIR

I had the pleasure to receive your favour of 28 ult. by John Spore and Company waggoners with the Ammunition for His Majestie's use, but there came A hundred and One Barrels of Gun Powder; and instead of 3 Tons of Lead, specified in the Receipt given you by Spore, there were but 48 boxes, designed at Home I suppose, to contain One hundred pounds  $\overline{gr}0$  or 112  $\overline{lb}$  and I See that M<sup>r</sup> Hamilton the Q<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> mentions in the List he Sent by the serjeant 48 boxes calling them 120 pound each with the tare; however I caused one of them to be emptied, and the lead to be weighed which proved to be but 111  $\overline{lb}$  So that if they all turn out the Same, it will amount to no more than 5328  $\overline{lb}$  I mentioned this

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<sup>1</sup> Edward Shippen, son of Edward and Sarah (Plumley) Shippen, and grandson of Joseph and Abigail (Grosse) Shippen, was afterwards chief justice of Pennsylvania. He was born February 12, 1728, and died April 16, 1806.

to Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix as Soon as I discovered the difference. I beg you will believe me to be (tho' I have not the Hon<sup>r</sup> of y<sup>r</sup> acquaintance) Sir Y<sup>r</sup> affectionate Friend & most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hum<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

EDW<sup>D</sup> SHIPPEN

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FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLYLE<sup>1</sup> June 18<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> both yours of the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> of June, by the Favour of Colonel Armstrong & some hours before that had rec<sup>d</sup> intelligence from Capt: Dagworthy & Capt Beal of their intelligence of the Motions of the French & Indians towards Fort Cumberland, on the receipt of which I directly apply'd to the Magistrates here for Waggons, for the Baggage Artillery, Ammunition and Provisions, & the moment they are provided shall March with the Five Comp<sup>ys</sup> of the First Battalion of the Roy<sup>l</sup> Americans and what I can get together of Colonel Armstrongs Battalions w<sup>ch</sup> I am hopeful will amount <sup>in the whole</sup> to six hundred men, shall march to Shippensburgh and from thence towards Winchester as I am inform'd there is thirty miles the other way to Fort Cumberland thro' the woods where there is no road cut, and am the more inclin'd to come to Winchester to joyn you as it seems to be (for the reasons you give) the properest place to make a Stand & concert such measures as may be best for his Majesty's service and shall de-

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<sup>1</sup> Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

pend a good deal upon your judgment & experience in the Operations in this Country, which you know by being long in it & I a Stranger have consult'd Col. Armstrong who thinks with me that Winchester will be the properest place for a Rendezvous & except I meet with other intelligence on my March must make that my first object, hope soon to have the pleasure of kissing your hands who am

Sir Your most

obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN STANWIX

I have a letter from Capt Croghan who tells me he stay only two or three days at Winchester as on his getting my letter would be uncertain please if you think prop<sup>t</sup> to acquaint him with what I propose, & am a good deal hurry<sup>d</sup> or would have wrote to him dare say he will do that upon consulting with you, which may make the Indians of service both you and he know infinitely better than I can possibly know of Indian affairs,

P. S. I have just rec<sup>d</sup> intelligence from Fort Allen in Pensilvania that an Indian lately came from Alleghany Says that the French Indians has actually cut a Road within ten miles of Fort Augusta, it appears they design, <sup>to</sup> amuse us in sundry places, And as I am leaving a Large Country Open into which into which is a great Road cut from the Alleghany Hills, I must depend on your Intelligence being expeditiously sent that I may take my measures accordingly.

FROM EDMUND ATKIN, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

WINCHESTER. 19 June 1757.

SIR

When the Swallows People<sup>2</sup> came to Town this afternoon, with the Young French Officer their Prisoner, they came Strait to my Lodgings, to pay their Compliment; and soon after carried him away to their own, to eat some Victuals, Hunger being uppermost in their Thoughts. In the Evening, before I would put you to the Trouble to attend (as I had determined to examine him then in the presence of yourself, & M<sup>r</sup> Croghan Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson's Deputy), I Sent to inquire whether I might have him brought to me. And he was not to be found. Soon after Standing at my door, I saw your Quarter Master M<sup>r</sup> Hamilton<sup>3</sup> hastening by, in quest, as I learnt from himself, of my Interpreter (that is the King's) M<sup>r</sup> Smith, & of a Frenchman whose name he declined telling me, in order to carry them to Heath's Ordinary to interpret for one or two Persons that wanted to talk with the Prisoner. In answer to my Question, how the Prisoner came there, he said, he was carried there by an Indian and to another, who was it that wanted to talk with the Prisoner, I could get no Satisfactory Answer at all from him. At his Re-

<sup>1</sup> The King's Agent for Indian Affairs in the South (from Pennsylvania to Georgia). His duty was to regulate the trade with the Indians, redress their wrongs, and keep them in alliance with the English. His salary was £250, and his bond was fixed at £200. The first agent appointed by Great Britain to the southern Indians was Thomas Nairne; and the last, Captain John Stuart, who succeeded Edmund Atkin about 1763.

<sup>2</sup> "Swallow, the brave Cherokee Indian chief, was killed at Turtle Creek, — 20 miles from Fort Duquesne." — Washington to Colonel Stanwix, June 15, 1757.

<sup>3</sup> John Hamilton.

turn with M<sup>r</sup> Smith in Company, Standing Still in the Door, I charged the latter to go to Heath's, & bring away the Indian with his Prisoner directly to me. At the same time directing myself to both I said, I wondered how any Person whatever could presume (I believe in my Warmth I said also, dare) to take that Method to examine the Prisoner, before I myself, or you the Commanding Officer of the Forces here, had had an Opportunity of asking a single Question of him? Major Finnie coming up to me presently afterwards, I told him what had happened, that I could not conceive who it was had been guilty of so extraordinary an Action, and desired him to be so kind as to enquire into it, & help to get back the Prisoner. He said, he was sure it could not be any of your officers, because he had but just left them all at the Fort (and indeed not long after I saw a great many pass by from that way towards Heath's). In a little time Major Finnie & M<sup>r</sup> Smith came back, with the Chief Indian, & the French Prisoner in his Possession; telling me, that it was only Lieutenant Baker that came to town with them & wanted them to drink a Glass of Wine with him. Here I thought the Affair might have ended.

I then sent M<sup>r</sup> Davenport to acquaint you, that the Prisoner was with me, and I should be glad of your Company, as I purposed to examine him. He brought me an Answer, that you were so very busy writing Letters, you could not possibly come. Wherefore I put off the Examination till to-morrow. But to my great surprise Major Finnie who had undertook to desire one of your Officers to stand Inter-

preter of French on this Occasion, brought me Word that he found many of them at Heath's, who were one & all so very angry thinking themselves affronted by me, that it was declared among them not one of the Regiment should do that Service for me (that little Service for their King & their Country). It seems your Quarter Master M<sup>r</sup>: Hamilton, had told some at least of those Officers what he had heard me utter (with some Additions), *as a Message from me to them*. I endeavoured as a Gentleman, by means of M<sup>r</sup>: Croghan as well as Major Finnie, only to Set the Matter in it's true Light, as I have now done to you. But in vain. They will have it, I have given an Affront; and not less than all must be concerned in it, and so forth. By the way, had I known which I did not, that it was One or More Officers that sent for the Prisoner to examine him, there was nothing amiss in what I said, bating the word *dare*, which indeed is not very genteel if said to them. For that officer must know very little, of Military Duty, who imagines he may freely examine a Prisoner of War before, or without the privity of, his Commanding Officer. Something may be discovered on such Examination, that no Person else whatsoever ought to have had the least Knowledge of, and may be of the last Importance to the Service to keep concealed.

To compleat the whole Affair, learned Discussions have been held publickly on this Occasion, at another Publick House (Brinkers) by a Young Ensign of your Regiment, Supported by a young Vol-

ontier who says he thinks himself obliged to stand by the Officers, *right or wrong*. This Ensign who pretends to know the Length, Breadth & Depth of my Rights & Powers by my Commission, in the end bid M<sup>r</sup> Davenport in the hearing of one of my Domesticks & others, "*to tell Atkin* (mark his polite Stile) *that he & every officer in the Regiment had as much Right & Power to examine the Prisoner as I had.*" This from Ensign Thompson to his Majesty's Agent & Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the four Southern Provinces.

It is easy to foresee the Tendency of this ill judged silly Spirit & Behaviour of the Officers. It cannot but affect me in my office, & consequently in his Majesty's Service; for which reason I think fit to lay it before you, not in the least doubting from your natural good Sense & Prudence, that you will check it in the Bud, & take proper Notice of Ensign Thompson & M<sup>r</sup> Hamilton in particular. And I hope you will think this a proper Opportunity for making known to all these Officers of your Regiment (what I believe is not yet known to all), the Governor's Proclamation concerning the Behaviour of People towards me & the Indians.

For my own part, as I have nothing in view but actual Service, so without entering into critical Disquisitions of the exact bounds & limits of my Right & Power, I shall always think it a part of my Duty to keep up a good Understanding with all Commanding Officers in the different Places I go to, as

I know it will be their Duty to countenance & support me to the utmost of their Power.

I am

Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

EDM<sup>d</sup> ATKIN.

FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT.

June 19, 1757

SIR

We understand that M<sup>r</sup> Atkins has either complained or intends to complain to you that we had the Insolence to desire one of the Cherokee Warriours with the french Prisoner to come & drink a Glass of Wine with us, if it is so, we shou'd be very much obliged to you if you wou'd inform that Gentleman that as our Officers & Men risk'd their Lives in taking of <sup>the Prisoner</sup> ~~him~~ we are entitled to speak to him when we please, M<sup>r</sup> Baker in particular i<sup>m</sup>agines that without any Offence to M<sup>r</sup> Atkins he may take that Liberty, & we apprehend that whatever command he may have over the Indians he can have none over us — We can't help observing that from the former Behaviour of M<sup>r</sup> Atkins that imagin'd he had been better acquainted with the Rules of good Manners than to send such a Message to Gentlemen who from their Station in Life their Births & Edu-

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cation ought to be treated with Respect — We are with great Esteem —

Sir

Your most Obedient Serv<sup>ts</sup>

THO<sup>S</sup> WAGGENER

*and all the officers*<sup>1</sup>

We are likewise inform'd that M<sup>r</sup> Atkins said that neither you nor any of us had a Right to speak to the Prisoner until he had done with him —

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FROM CAPTAIN ALEXANDER BEALL.<sup>2</sup>

FORT FREDERICK June 19<sup>th</sup> 1757.

S<sup>r</sup>

the enclosed Letters Came from Coll<sup>o</sup> Stanwix about 11 o'Clock this Night, and I have Immediately Dispatched them to you, as the Coll<sup>o</sup> writes in a Very Important Manner for intilligence, I Shall Send a Strong party out to Fort Cumberland to Morrow, tho we want Indians Very much for Such Service, and if a few Could be Spared this way, I Apprehend it would be Very much for the Benefit of the Service; pray Favour me with What Intelligence you have Received Since the 14<sup>th</sup> from the Frontiers, that I may Convey it to Coll<sup>o</sup> Stanwix, which will be an Easier way of Communicating it to him, than if you Sent an Express directly from Winchester, I Shall Send it by Fort Loudoun, and the

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<sup>1</sup> The original is in Captain Waggener's handwriting, and is signed by him in this manner.

<sup>2</sup> In command at Fort Frederick, Maryland.

Messenger will be picking up something that may be of use in his way, if you Can Give me Any hints, of your Intentions, that may Enable me the better to Act for the Publick service you Will infinitely Oblidge

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

ALEX. BEALL

P. S. a Soldier who Seems to have deserted from Fort Cumberland Left it the 16th in the Morning but brings Nothing New, only he discovered five Indians in his way down about five miles from this Place, we Expect the Millitia of this County here to Morrow —

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA. 19. June 1757

D<sup>R</sup> S<sup>R</sup>

This is intended to be delivered You by Bryan Fx, who is appointed by Commission Captain of one of the two detach<sup>t</sup> Companys of our Militia which its hopd will amount to the Number of fifty private Men each, and Sufficient at this Time to answer y<sup>t</sup> Expectation from Us. I sent immediate Notice to Col<sup>o</sup> H<sup>y</sup> Lee to act the needful with the P<sup>ce</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Militia, and Y<sup>rs</sup> for Gov<sup>t</sup> Sharpe Sent over to M<sup>t</sup> Marshal<sup>s</sup> directly. As no doubt Gov<sup>t</sup> <sup>1</sup>Dagworthy Sent an Express to Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix He may expect a Reinforcement of the Regulars & some Provincials by Order of Gov<sup>t</sup> Sharpe, so that probably the Enemy

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<sup>1</sup> Captain.

Will be prevented marching towards Your Fortress —

We have given Orders to have our whole Militia in a Readiness to March on a Sudden Notice and further Advices of Your needing any certain Number. What are now orderd to attend y<sup>r</sup> Commands as They are at some Distance from each Other, may Want Ammunition and Provisions but suppose will be supplied & victualled as the Detachments were last Year — which being an additional Expence to the Country You will please to return to Us as soon as the public Weal & Service can spare them.

In the Extract of an Act of the last Assembly.

A Clause inserted —

“ That every able bodied Person willing to enlist to serve in the Regiment shall be entitled to Five Pounds, And if no Person present will advance the s<sup>d</sup> Reward, then the Person so enlisting shall be paid the same within three Days after his Arrival at the Place of General Rendezvous, by the Commanding Officer of the Forces in the Service of this Colony ”

As it is very unlikely that any such Sums will be advanced by private Persons, so You may expect a direct Application will be made to You by the Persons so enlisting, therefore You will think it necessary to be furnished with a Sufficient Sum of Money <sup>from the Treasurer</sup> to answer the Demands aforesaid.

For particulars referr to Bryan Fx and Him to your friendly Advice &c. Lodged at y<sup>r</sup> Mother's the 12<sup>th</sup> inst then left her &c well —

S<sup>r</sup> very affect<sup>d</sup> & assurd Friend &c

W. FAIRFAX

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 20<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Y<sup>r</sup> Letter<sup>1</sup> by Express I rec<sup>d</sup> last Night & I am sorry for the Intelligence it brings of such a Number of French & Indians marching from Fort Du Quesne, & its more than probable their Design is against Fort Cumberland, & am uneasy that Garrison is in so poor a Condition for Defence, & I really fear it is in the Enemy's Hands before this can reach You. — if so, they probably will proceed to Fort Loudoun, — in order to reinforce You, I have order'd one Third of the Militia of the following Counties to march immediately to Ford Loudoun, viz<sup>t</sup> Frederick, Fairfax, Prince W<sup>m</sup>, Culpepper, Orange Stafford & Spotsylvania, which I hope together will am<sup>t</sup> to 1000 Men. — I doubt not Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix will march his Regulars where the greatest Danger is, or where the Enemy may be, & when the Men are all collected in a Body I hope they will be able to repell the Force of the Enemy, & You are to follow [mutilated]<sup>2</sup> Orders Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix may send You from Time to [mutilated] without regard to any Orders You may have rec<sup>d</sup> fr [mutilated] & as probably he may order Men to join him, I c [mutilated] prevail on the Assembly to allow the Militia to be [mutilated] out of this Dominion, — therefore if he orders t [mutilated] must supply him from Your Regiment, & eith [mutilated] or some other good Officer to remain at Fort Loudo [mutilated] the Militia, to protect that Garrison, but at pres [muti-

<sup>1</sup> Of June 16. Ford's *Writings of Washington*, vol. i. p. 449.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. *Dinwiddie Papers*, vol. ii. p. 643.

lated] of Opinion that C<sup>o</sup>. Stanwix will choose to come to [mutilated] Loudoun as most central, & from thence form hi [mutilated] Dispositions; — I know not where he is when Y [mutilated] him pray send my Complts.

I sent [mutilated] the Council this Morning, & they [badly mutilated] direct you to send for the Men at the different small Forts to be ready on a Call at Fort Loudoun.

I cannot conceive the Enemy can be so numerous as M<sup>r</sup>. Livingston mentions, when I consider the Report of the Officer that is a Prisoner;<sup>1</sup> — & Serj<sup>t</sup> Trent assur'd me there was not 150 French besides Ind<sup>s</sup> at Fort Du Quesne; however as they march with a Train of Artillery it's probable they have Men enough to invest & take Fort Cumberland, I am of Opinion they must want Provisions, if possible to prevent their having a Supply will be a great Point.

M<sup>r</sup>. Boyd brings 10000 $\text{£}$  which I believe is all the Money coin'd, I am sorry they have no small Bills; the Treasurer says in a Fortnight he will have a Q<sup>nty</sup> printed.

I have sent 240 $\text{£}$  to M<sup>r</sup>. Atkin to pay for the Scalps brought in by the Swallow's Party — As for the Peopl's Demand for Ind<sup>s</sup> they shall be paid when produced, Money is not ready — C<sup>o</sup>. Stephen left an Acc<sup>t</sup> of 58 $\text{£}$  for that Service, chiefly for Liquors which is paid [mutilated] ay, & any others hereafter will be paid [mutilated] Vouchers.

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<sup>1</sup> The prisoner (Velistre), brought in by Lieutenant Baker, had stated that the garrison at Fort Du Quesne consisted of six hundred French and two hundred Indians.

I am sorry Fort Loudoun is not finished, it [mutilated] n a long Time in hand, but I now expect that by [mutilated] Diligence You will be able soon to complete it & [mutilated] the Necessity. — Let me know if You possibly [mutilated] Number of the Enemy, & what Artillery they [mutilated] ve; I am under great Uneasiness on Your pres<sup>t</sup> [mutilated], yet I doubt not with the Regulars, Provincials [mutilated] tia You will be able to stand Your Ground, & more [mutilated] I believe C<sup>o</sup> Stanwix will exert himself on this [mutilated] on.

I have order'd Winchester & Fredricksburg for the [mutilated] of the Draughts from the Country Militia; I [a line mutilated] Officers, to receive those [mutilated] may come to [mutilated] & I think it will be necessary to send them imēdiately.

I am so hurried that I cannot write You a particular Answer to each Paragraph of Y<sup>r</sup> Letters, but I think the above are the most essential Points. — I am in great Pain for C<sup>t</sup> Spotswood, his being safe returned will give me much Joy.<sup>1</sup>

I cannot determine on forming the two additional Companies to Y<sup>r</sup> Reg<sup>mt</sup>, till I see how many Men will be rais'd, as I have some Doubt on the Mode prescribed for raising them, that I shall be glad if they am<sup>o</sup> sufficient to compleat the eight Companies now in the Country — Or do I think of the three Compa<sup>s</sup> of Rangers till that is finish'd as I tho<sup>t</sup> it wou'd interfere with the Draughts.

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Robert Spotswood, sent out in command of a scouting party early in June, was killed by the Indians.

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I must now leave off wishing to hear a good Acc<sup>t</sup>  
of Your troublesome Neighbours

I rem<sup>t</sup> with Respect —

Sir

Your h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

P. S. Paid the Express 5<sup>£</sup>

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FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

DEAR SIR

I share in the anxiety and concern that you must undoubtedly undergo in the present melancholy prospect and very warmly wish a happy issue — Shou'd my service be requisite in any shape at this juncture, I shall be glad to know it, and will immediately obey with the greatest chearfulness in whatever you are pleased to command.

This County sends 120 Men to your assistance, tho' experience gives but little hopes of the service to be expected from undisciplined Militia — How infatuate are our Assemblies! heedless to the reports of Danger, and indifferent in their Measures for the General safety — otherwise, the spring woud not have passed idly over without a single step taken to augment your Regiment. — The case in short is, we pay more regard to the Welfare of our Nighbours, and look upon our <sup>own</sup> situation as quite Secure — a Benevolent Disposition indeed! —

Yesterday Col<sup>o</sup> Fairfax gave me a Letter from Captain Mercer of 29<sup>th</sup> May from York — in which

he writes me the Method he has taken to reimburse Captain Cock's money, as you may observe on the other side — which method I am certain won't be agreeable to said Cock —

I imagine M<sup>r</sup> Boyd is sometime since, gone to Williamsbg shoud I not receive your orders to go up before his return, — I design to take the pleasure of waiting upon You then —

The new regulations, to be made in Your Command, may probably afford an opportunity of continuing Your kindness and good offices, which I have so often received — and for which I shall allways gratefully acknowledge myself —

Dear Sir

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> & much Obliged

Hum Servant

JN<sup>o</sup> KIRKPATRICK<sup>1</sup>

ALEXANDRIA 19<sup>th</sup> June 1757

Cap <sup>t</sup> Cock's £250 — thus to <sup>be</sup> accounted for.	
Acco <sup>ts</sup> settled with the Committee (tho' not paid) w <sup>t</sup> Yours. ⌘ rece <sup>ts</sup> . . . . .	£62 - 9 - 4.
Acco <sup>ts</sup> ditto. ⌘ Cap <sup>t</sup> Mercer as ⌘ Certificate inclosed . . . . .	164 - 1 - 5.
Cash. — Sent by Cap <sup>t</sup> Mercer to Cap <sup>t</sup> Cocks . . . buying a horse . . . . .	2 - - - -
Cash, sent to J. K. ⌘ Col <sup>o</sup> Fairfax . . . . Ball <sup>ce</sup> . . . . .	21 - 10 - 3.
	<hr/>
	£250 - 1 - -
	<hr/>

<sup>1</sup> John Kirkpatrick, Washington's secretary, as we know from the latter's own words, was a young man bred to business, of good character, well recommended, and a person of whose abilities Washington had not the least doubt.

FROM JOHN BAYLOR,<sup>1</sup> ESQ.

NEW MARKET 20th June 1757

DEAR SIR

Y<sup>rs</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> 10th. I rec'd & have by the Bearer sent y<sup>r</sup> Mare which I make not the least Doubt of being in Foal & you are kindly welcome to send a couple of Mares yearly to my Horses. When we come to recounting Favours I find my self so largely y<sup>r</sup> Debtor that I shall allways insist on y<sup>r</sup> Commanding with Freedom any & every thing wherein I can be serviceable. Sorry I am for the unhappy Fall of y<sup>e</sup> poorest or least of our back inhabitants. I wish it were in my Power to prevent it. The tenderness of my Understanders render me incapable of Atchev<sup>ts</sup> in that Part of the World Could we get a peacable or even Forcible Possession of that fine Country lying between the Mississippi & Ohio I had rather live there than any Part of America & more so after a late Confab. with Capt. Gist. I wish my good Friends Capt. Spotswood & Lieut. Baker may not have ventured too far with so small Partys but as the brave Harry y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> told his soldiers that Victory was not so much owing to Numbers as to the Conduct & Courage at the remarkable Battle of Agincourt so I make no doubt but these Gentlemen of whom I have an extry. esteem will render a good account of their Behaviour. If ever an Oppy. offers pray remember my little Friend Capt. Woodford.

<sup>1</sup> Father of Major George Baylor, aid to Washington at the battle of Trenton, alleged possessor of MS. of the letters of Junius. See Mr. Brock's biographical sketch of Colonel Baylor in the *Dinwiddie Papers*, vol. ii. p. 103.

And that you may always succeed in all y<sup>r</sup> Undertakings will be ever the most joyful news to

Dear Col<sup>o</sup>: y<sup>r</sup> most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hb<sup>l</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>  
& sincere well wisher

J. BAYLOR

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FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLISLE June 22<sup>d</sup> 1757  
two O'Clock —

SIR

I wrote you a letter this morning about 6 O'Clock since which I have the Favour of your's of the 20<sup>th</sup> with the Excommunication<sup>1</sup> of the French Officer your Prisoner for which I [am] extreamly obliged to you, shall only add to what I say'd in the morning that I highly approve of the Council of War you held and think your Fort Loudoun the properest place to make a Stand for which reason it was there I intend'd to joyn you with six hund<sup>r</sup> men, had Fort Cumberland been taken which by the notion I have of the place is in no sort tenable against such an attack as we were made to believe was in agitation against it, I confess my self a very great stranger to Indian affairs yet can not help thinking but that these Cherokees are well worth encouragm<sup>t</sup> I am made to believe that Fort Augusta is to be attack'd but should think these works in some forwardness, must leave to a little time to discover to us what the Enemy realy intend to do, this province will main-

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<sup>1</sup> The result of the official examination of the prisoner, forwarded to Colonel Stanwix by Washington.

tain a French Army well, but where they can have Armys for all places I can't divine, beg you will believe that I am with great truth

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Your most  
obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN STANWIX

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FROM COLONEL JOHN STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLISLE, 22<sup>d</sup> June 1757

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

had I not had a letter last night from Capt. Dagworthy<sup>of</sup> Fort Cumberlands being safe and the intelligence of Artillery, Waggons &c &c &c being a Mistake, should have march'd this morning every thing being ready, but was stop'd some days for want of Carriages, and it will be always the Case here in this deserted Country as I shall ever be obliged to Carry my Provisions tent Amm<sup>n</sup> &c so that at least forty Waggons will be necessary, which at soonest will require eight or ten days to Collect.

Capt. Beall writes as follows. "as the Virginia Militia will be in motion for the Defence of his Majesty's Fort & Stores at Winchester perhaps Col: Washington can spare some men to reinforce Fort Cumberland till we see the Event of this invasion," — this I send you only as hint but at this distance can give you no order, but must leave it to you to do and act the best you can for the publick service, — I have intelligence from Col: Weiser that the French Indians are Clearing a Road within ten Miles of

Shamokin near Fort Augusta and are morrally sure by Indian intelligence that of that Fortress being Attack'd by which we may learn the French are buise [busy] everywhere, which they will continue to be 'till Lord Loudoun begins the Execution of his great plan of Opperation, on the Success of which the very being of this Country and that of England depends, God send him that success which I think his great attention to the publick service & his great knowledge in Military affairs deserve believe me

D: Sir your most  
obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN STANWIX

got all the Ammunition you sent by my Waggon from Lancaster & on taking an acc<sup>t</sup> of the number of Barrells of powder they amount'd to one hundred and One —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 24<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I cou'd not answer Y<sup>r</sup> Letters till now — I have wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Atkins about the Indians, & he must know better than I can how to manage them. — Cap<sup>t</sup> Pearis having excepted a Com<sup>o</sup> from Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe, forfeits any expectat<sup>s</sup> from this Colony, his Conduct has been bad, so I think it's a good ridance of him.

As to the Bat-Men, I presume my Lord overlook'd that Article, but on a Return from me he will be more particular; the Country's at a monstrous Charge, therefore as formerly there are only two

Bat-Men to be allow'd to a Comp<sup>y</sup> & this is agreeable to the Regulation in the Regulars, as C<sup>o</sup> Stanwix can inform You. — Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward will remain a short Time at Fort Loudoun till You are inform'd of the Designs of the Enemy.

If the supply<sup>s</sup> the poor Country People <sup>with ammunition</sup> will be of any Advantage to the Country, it's left with You to do it with Frugality & to proper Objects. — Y<sup>e</sup> removing C<sup>t</sup> Stewart's Comp<sup>y</sup> from Maidstone, for the Reasons assign'd I approve of it. — The 11 Deserters in Confinement, some of the Ringleaders shou'd undergo Corporal Punishment; or on confessing their Fault, & Promises of good Behavior for the Future, a proper Reproof at the Head of the Reg<sup>mt</sup> may do, but in this You must act as You think fit.

Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix being appointed Comdr in Chief, You must submit to his Orders without regard to any You may have rec<sup>d</sup> from me, he being near the Place, can direct Affairs better than I can. Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis has been very unlucky in all his Expeditions I do not imi [mutilated] to Mismanagem<sup>t</sup> as the Ind<sup>s</sup> cou'd not be [mutilated] take Provisions sufficient.<sup>1</sup> — I wish we [mutilated] good Acc<sup>t</sup> of Capt. Spotswood.

[mutilated] blameable [mutilated] of the Reg [mutilated] the Indians [mutilated] contrary [mutilated] not bringing the officers appoint'd for S<sup>o</sup> Carolina; if the King's Ship & Transports had not been ready to sail I shou'd have order'd the others down

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<sup>1</sup> Major Lewis had gone out in command of a scouting party of Cherokee Indians, but, having been unable to prevail upon them to take more than eight days' provisions, had been obliged to return without accomplishing anything.

If any of the Dutch Blankets remain & not wanted for the Indians I have no objection to their being replac'd in the room of those made use of.

The Provisions deliver'd to C<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy at F<sup>t</sup> Cumb<sup>l</sup>d sh<sup>d</sup> by Agreem<sup>t</sup> with G<sup>t</sup> Sharpe be replac'd at Fort Loudoun in the different Species deliver'd; the Beef prov<sup>s</sup> bad shou'd have been objected to before C<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy gave his Receipt, & not to be condemn'd as useless, partially by their own Officers, I wrote M<sup>t</sup> Sharpe agreeable thereto; & he wrote Doct<sup>r</sup> Ross<sup>1</sup> their Commissary was to settle the Affair with You, but I cannot see how it's to be settled but by supplying the different Species at Fort Loudoun, or Money to purchase the Quantity.

I do not think of the additional Compa<sup>s</sup> till You compleat the eight Compa<sup>s</sup> now in the Country. — Also the Settlement of Y<sup>t</sup> Bro<sup>s</sup> Estate; Y<sup>t</sup> absence on that Acc<sup>t</sup> from F<sup>t</sup> Loudoun must be suspended till our Affairs give a better Prospect.

I have Y<sup>t</sup> Roll of the Subaltern Officers, & Shall find You some Blank Comis<sup>s</sup> to be fill'd up. As to the Resignat<sup>o</sup> of Williams & Dean, I hope their Places may be supplied by Persons of equal Merit — I agree that the Cap<sup>t</sup>s accept<sup>s</sup> of Lieut<sup>s</sup> Commissions shou'd have Rank prior to other Lieu<sup>ts</sup> Serj<sup>t</sup> Hughes on Your Reco<sup>m</sup>endat<sup>o</sup>n & C<sup>t</sup> Stewart's has a Com<sup>o</sup> for Adjutant to the Regmt. — There has yet no Clergy Man offer'd to be Chaplain, & if not one of good Character, better have [mutilated] re so as the Regmt is to be divided agreeable to [mutilated] Disposition.

[mutilated] already wrote You to [mutilated] Officers to

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<sup>1</sup> Doctor David Ross, of Bladenburg, Md.

[mutilated] to receive [mutilated]  
to be [entirely mutilated]

Discipline of the others without any Restriction —

I do not think of the Rangers till Y<sup>r</sup> Reg<sup>mt</sup> is compleated; I propose the Rangers up Y<sup>r</sup> way to be under Y<sup>r</sup> direction, & those in Augusta under the Com<sup>d</sup>g Officer there. I observe the Return of Y<sup>r</sup> Men in May is 432 & the 16<sup>th</sup> June 384 the Deficiency You can best explain.

I wrote You by the Express an Answer to the melancholy Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Motions of the Enemy from Fort Du Quesne; & am in Pain to know their Numbers & progress. I dread the first Acc<sup>t</sup> will be their taking Fort Cumb<sup>l</sup>d but hope Y<sup>r</sup> Men with the Militia will secure Fort Loudoun — By return of the Bearer (who goes to conduct the Cherokees to Winchester) I expect as full Acc<sup>t</sup> as You can give, where Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix is, & his Motions on the Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Fr. &c.

I remain

Sir

Your most h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

Inclos'd You have M<sup>r</sup>  
Hughes' Com<sup>o</sup>

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

DEAR SIR

I have receiv'd y<sup>r</sup> Favour by Dan<sup>l</sup> Jenings,<sup>1</sup> and am pleasd that the Enemy have not made any nearer

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<sup>1</sup> Intended probably for Jenkins.

Approaches with a considerable Body, so as to require a further Re inforcement of our Militia, especially as the Detachment sent You proves difficult for Your Supplying Them w<sup>th</sup> the necessary Provisions &c which We could not procure & accomodate them With at the Several Distances They were drafted from, and Surely as our Detachment is on the Country's Service, they are to be victualled as such, And it would be an extraordinary Charge for each County to Send a Commissary, therefore Suppose the Account for victualling will be readily allowed You — As to the Skulking Party that has infested the Neighbourhood about Maidstone, they may be thought as heretofore to be but a few and Such as Capt Gist if He had continued in Command woud probably very soon have disperst. If the Gov<sup>rs</sup> Orders should come to march one third of our Militia, as You now don't want that Number I can easily answer, But other Countys not knowing that You don't at present want more may send You a Number disagreeable as They will all want Provisions &c I am glad L<sup>t</sup> Baker had good Success, and yet hope Capt<sup>o</sup> Spotswood & his Comp<sup>y</sup> may be forct to hide Themselves for some Days & happily return — Outasite &c will be a great Scourge to the prouling Enemy. You will please to order the Captains Minor & Fairfax to keep exact Muster Roll For my examining and passing to entitle Them for Payment &c. I expected a Letter from Bryan &c. The Family here salute You in the kindest Manner

and wish You every Felicity which I Witness as  
Dear S<sup>r</sup>

BELVOIR  
26. June 1757.

Y<sup>r</sup> very affect<sup>e</sup> & assur<sup>d</sup>  
Friend & Serv<sup>t</sup>  
W. FAIRFAX.

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 27<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> Y<sup>rs</sup> of the 21<sup>st</sup> <sup>of</sup> Jenkins — I am glad the first Intelligence of the French & Indians formidable March with Artillery, Waggon &c proves false, — that they will continue to send scouting Parties to harrass these Colonies, I always expected, & probably they may now increase their Numbers to make a strong Push; but still as it's Indian News, who cannot count Numbers, I woud gladly hope they are not so formidable as represented; however I think it prudent that You keep of Frederick, Fairfax & Prince W<sup>m</sup> one hundred of each till the Draught arrive at Winchester, I suppose many of them are now at Fredricksburg where I hope You have sent Officers to receive them.

The French Officer's Information, who is Prisoner with You, may partly be true in regard to the Strength at Fort Du Quesne; but I cannot think they will send any Forces from Montreal, as it's natural to think they will keep all the Forces they can to the N<sup>o</sup>ward to oppose L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun's Operations; or can any Number of Cherokees or Creeks come to their Assistance; all the Cherokees have declar'd for

us, & taken up the Hatchet, except the Town of Tellico, in the upper Cherokee Country; & from S<sup>o</sup> Carolina it's reported the Creeks declare themselves our Friends.

The Indians who harrass our Frontiers are partly some of those that formerly did so, as the 48 Indians that parted with them the Day before they were attack'd, as reported were Shawnesse; & no doubt they have many of the Western Indians. I hope the Acc<sup>t</sup> of their Cannon is true.

Or can I believe the arrival of 3000 Soldiers at Montreal, we shou'd have had an Acc<sup>t</sup> from Home if any such Embarkation was made. —

I approve of Y<sup>r</sup> Orders to Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis, & I hope You will not have occasion to evacuate those Forts, tho' on the first Intelligence sent here of the Designs of the French, with Artillery &c the Council advis'd the evacuating those Forts to reinforce Fort Loudoun.<sup>1</sup>

You wrote to C<sup>o</sup> Stanwix which Letter he answer'd, but did not that Part relating to the Small Arms; I think You shou'd have communicated to me the Contents of that Letter, for I do not know where He & his Forces are.

I have Reason to think most of the Draughts will be at Fredrickbg this Week, & I doubt not You have

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<sup>1</sup> "In consequence of the first intelligence which I received from Fort Cumberland, and the result of the Council of War held on that occasion: I gave Major Lewis (who at present commands at the South Branch) orders to give all the country-people warning of the danger with which they were threat'ned; and that he, and the troops under his command, shou'd hold themselves in readiness to retreat hither, in case it shou'd prove expedient; but not to evacuate the Forts on the Branch, until he shou'd have *certain* accounts of the enemy's intentions against that Quarter." — Washington to Dinwiddie, June 21, 1757.

sent Officers to receive them; & as I order'd the Militia of several other Counties to Your Assistance, You are to order them to return Home excepting those three Counties above.

No News from Britain, & I am quite in the Dark as to L<sup>d</sup> Loudouns Motions, not having any Letter these two Months. — The Treasurer this Day sends to Fredricksburg Money to pay the Volunteers & Draughts their enlisting Money, who are to be incorporated with the Regmt. I much want to know C<sup>o</sup> Stanwix's Opinion & his Disposition of the Troops on this late Information of the Enemy's Motions.

My Respects to M<sup>r</sup> Atkin, I cannot write him now, I remain

Sir

Your most hble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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FROM ARCHIBALD CARY, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

CHESTERF<sup>d</sup> June 28-1757

DEAR SIR,

By Cap<sup>t</sup> Bell I receiv'd yours and am Greatly Oblig'd to you, for your Good Intentions to Serve him, and must believe that the hopes the Gov<sup>r</sup> has Given him is due to you.

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Archibald Cary, of "Amphill," Chesterfield County, was the son of Henry, grandson of Henry, and great-grandson of Miles Cary, who settled in Virginia, 1640-46, and died in 1667. Colonel Cary (who was an influential member of the Assembly of that Colony in 1768, and prominent during the Revolutionary period) married Mary, daughter of Richard Randolph. One of his daughters married Thomas Mann Randolph, and another Carter Page. Colonel Cary died in 1787.

Notwithstanding I hold no Military Comm: I thought it my Duty to do all I Could to raise the Men due from our County for the present Service and I judg'd those most proper who would Voluntarily Inlist, I Apply'd to the Bearer Drury Pucket a person who was last Year in the Service (& as I have been Inform'd behav'd well) he is a Person of Good report here and has been Extremely Active on this Occasion, he has desired me to Mention so much to you, and if he should Continue to behave Well & should deserve to be Taken Notice of A Serj<sup>s</sup> Post is the Most of his Ambition at present; I hope you will Excuse this freedom

We are here a little uneasy on a report of an Army of French Marching Your Way if it should be so, I hope it will Give you an Opportunity of Gaining Fresh Laurels And I do Assure you no Man more Wishes to See You Crown'd with them than Your

Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

ARCH<sup>d</sup> CARY

P. S. M<sup>rs</sup> Cary & Miss Randolph joyn in Wishing you that Sort of Glory which will most Endear you to the Fair Sex,

A C

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FROM THE HONORABLE MR. SPEAKER ROBINSON.

DEAR SIR/

I wrote you last by M<sup>r</sup> Boyd by whom I sent Ten thousand Pounds, Six thousand for the Arrears due to the Regm<sup>t</sup> and Four thousand for Provisions &c.

and Two Days ago I recd an Order from the Gov<sup>r</sup> to send up to the Officers, appointed to receive the drafted and enlisted men, Two Thousand Pounds to pay the Men the Reward given them by the Act, and I have embraced the Opportunity by the Capt that goes with our drafted men to Fredricksburgh to send the Money to be delivered to one of the Officers there appointed to receive the Men, to be by him delivered to You, I have paid Eleven of our Men who enlisted voluntary, a List of whose names I have sent to be given to the Officer that they mayn't demand again, and there are only five that are drafted and who are to receive their Reward from You. I flatter myself the Conduct of our County in this Affair will meet with Approbation, as we have sent our full Compliment, and most of them likely young fellows I wish every other County may do as well, whereby you may be enabled to make some defence against our numerous and vigilant Enemy, of whose Motions and destination we are impatient to hear, And of the Fate of poor Spotswood, who is much lamented among us. In your last letter you hinted something of Capt Mercer's being indebted to the Country but as you did not speak out or let me know on what Acc<sup>t</sup> it is I can't tell how to Act, the Com to has settled his Acc<sup>ts</sup> and there is due to him about 160. — which I shall retain in my hands till I hear further from You<sup>1</sup> I sincerely wish you

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<sup>1</sup> "The *matter* which I hinted to you about Mercer, is since cleared up." — Washington to Speaker Robinson, July 10, 1757.

all the happiness you can desire & I am with the greatest Truth

Dear Sir  
Your Affect<sup>e</sup> Friend  
JOHN ROBINSON

June 29, 1757.

1757 June 9 & 10	<i>A Return of Provisions &amp;c for the Cherokee Indians comanded by the Young Warrior under my conductment from Winchester in Frederick Count: to Wassers [Vass'] Fort on Roñoke - - - - -</i>	
	From Cap <sup>t</sup> John Fienk. 2 pigs 40 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread } 14 Q <sup>ts</sup> Beer & 2 Q <sup>ts</sup> Liq <sup>r</sup> }	£1 " 16 " 11
	Abraham Miller Bread & Meat . . . . .	" 1 " 4
11 <sup>th</sup>	Reiley Moore 15 <sup>3/4</sup> <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 21 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 4 Q <sup>ts</sup> Corn } 1 <sup>lb</sup> Butter 1 Q <sup>t</sup> Liq <sup>r</sup> }	" 11 " 4 <sup>7</sup>
	John Magil To Butter-Cheese & Bread . . . . .	" 3.
12 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine Sevier 1 Sheep 24 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 1 Gall. Corn . . . . .	" 10 " (
13 <sup>th</sup>	John Stenson 1 Calf 15 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 17 <sup>lbs</sup> Butter Corn & Hay . . .	- " 8 " (
15 & 16	William Long for 6 In- } dians w <sup>th</sup> went before } for Provisions for the } Indians with me . }	- " 4. - 2 " 14 -
	12 <sup>1/2</sup> Gall Beer 14 <sup>1/4</sup> } Rum <sup>6/2</sup> Grain <sup>1/6</sup> . }	1 " 2 -
		4 " - "
17	James Cowin 1 Sheep 20 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 1 q <sup>t</sup> Liq <sup>r</sup> 8 q <sup>ts</sup> Corn . . . . .	" 9 " 1
	David Moore 6 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 1 <sup>lb</sup> Butter 6 q <sup>ts</sup> Corn . .	- " 4 "
18	Isaac Taylor 1 Sheep 10 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 2 q <sup>ts</sup> Liq <sup>r</sup> 12 q <sup>ts</sup> Corn . . . . .	- " 12 " 11

	James Simpson 2 <sup>lbs</sup> Butter 10 <sup>lbs</sup>	
	Bread 3 Gall Milk 6 q <sup>ts</sup> Corn . .	" 3 "4 -
19	Cap <sup>t</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Field 20 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 20 <sup>lbs</sup>	
	Bacon Past <sup>e</sup> & Corn . . . . .	- " 11 " -
20	John Meals 50 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread 20 <sup>lbs</sup> Ba-	
	con 2 <sup>lbs</sup> Butter 2 q <sup>ts</sup> Liq <sup>t</sup> 3 Gall	} - " 19 " 2.
	Milk 1/2 Bush <sup>l</sup> Corn . . . . .	
21	Edw <sup>d</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Daniel 20 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1 <sup>lb</sup>	
	Butter 8 q <sup>ts</sup> Corn 1 q <sup>t</sup> Liq <sup>t</sup> 3	} 1 " - " 2.
	Deer Skins . . . . .	
22	Joseph Love 1 Shoat 12 <sup>lbs</sup> Bread	
	Corn & Past <sup>e</sup> . . . . .	- " 7 " -.
	W <sup>m</sup> Grymes 2 <sup>lbs</sup> Butter & a pipe	
	Tomahawk . . . . .	- " 11 " 9.
24	Reced out of the Maga-	
	zine at Wassers Fort	
	150 <sup>1/4</sup> <sup>lbs</sup> Beef 269 <sup>1/2</sup> <sup>lbs</sup>	
	Flower 10 <sup>lbs</sup> Bacon 1	
	Peck Corn 3 <sup>lbs</sup> Pow-	
	der 3 <sup>1/2</sup> <sup>lbs</sup> Lead 3 Q <sup>ts</sup>	
	Salt . . . . .	
	Paid Rob <sup>t</sup> Reid for Sun-	
	dries as <sup>o</sup> receipts . . £ - " 5 " -	
	D <sup>o</sup> to James Hughes . . - " 2 " 3.	
	D <sup>o</sup> to Israel Christian . . 1 " 1 " 7.	
	D <sup>o</sup> to John Johnston . . - " 1 " -.	
		1 " 19 " 10.
	To Cap <sup>t</sup> Riddle for the Hire of his	
	Waggon 1 Day . . . . .	- " 5 " -.
	John Davis for 2 Horses - 1	
	Day . . . . .	
	John Stenson for 1 Horse	
	Press'd & Carried away by the	
	Indians the same being	
	Press <sup>d</sup> by Ord <sup>r</sup> of John Bu-	
	chanan - Gent. & valued to . . . . .	8 " 10 " -.
	for 1 Ditto w <sup>th</sup> Saddle &	
	Bridle Press <sup>d</sup> as above	} 6 " 12 " -.
	& Valued to	
	JOHN DAVID WILPER Serj <sup>t</sup>	

FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

DEAR S<sup>R</sup>

I am glad You had no repeated Advices of the approaching Enemy w<sup>ch</sup> has admitted the Discharge of Captain Fx and Company of ill disciplin'd Militia and generally compos'd of malevolent Persons. A Proof of our inconsiderate Medley is given in our not been able to send more than nine Persons from this County to add to y<sup>r</sup> Regiment. I referr to Col<sup>o</sup> Carlyle's giving You an Acc<sup>t</sup> how our odly mixt Court had its Interruptions and Some Delinquents escaped. And I much doubt whether the County's below will have better Success — If Money had been placed in every County a more likely Chance to enlist Men. Every one that has Seen Fort Loudoun Speak Well of it's Structure, Situation & Commander. I wish it was in my Power to give the Workmen a suitable Encouragement. Your Care no doubt is to compleat your Walls, Ramparts & Parapets, to mount your Guns, Secure y<sup>r</sup> Gates and come at Water against any <sup>sudden</sup> Approach of an Enemy. Another Set of Workmen if You have them, can finish Y<sup>r</sup>, the Officers Lodging & Barracks. I suppose You do not much converse with M<sup>r</sup> Atkin as You are silent about Him. The disbanding our Troops of Horse Militia has put the Officers under Suspence It can't be intended the late Horse <sup>Officers</sup> shall be placd in the common Rank and how to be posted is not exprest. Other Inconsistences might be mention'd, but suppose You have observd them. That We have not yet heard of the expected Shipping &

Transports from England & Cork's Arrival is a Matter of Wonder & Concern. No doubt L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun has many Uneasinesses on their Delay. Gen<sup>l</sup> Webb, Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix &c lamenting their Inaction unless the March of the Enemy in Pennsylvania cause some of their Troops to watch & interrupt their Motions. As Outasite is a noted Warrior, perhaps he will undertake some notable Exploit to revenge Cap<sup>t</sup> Spotswood if fallen.

For particulars refer to Col<sup>o</sup> Carlyle.

The Family here together offer their affect Compl<sup>ts</sup> and Wishes that all your Desires may be fully answer'd which I attest and confirm as

Dear S<sup>r</sup>:

Y<sup>r</sup>: very affect<sup>e</sup> Friend  
and obed<sup>t</sup>: h<sup>b</sup>: Serv<sup>t</sup>:

W. FAIRFAX

ALEXANDRIA  
1<sup>st</sup> July 1757.

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL.

NOVA S<sup>c</sup>o HALIFAX July 5<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR/ :

I wrote you last from New York, & have now to acquaint you Our fleet arriv'd at y<sup>s</sup>: Place y<sup>e</sup>: 30. Ultimo, after a blustering passage of 9 days

Heaven propitious to our Designs, happily carr<sup>d</sup> the french Fleet under Marq. Beaufremont off this Coast a very few days before, where he had been cruising sometime with 2 Sail of the Line—had they fell in with us, the Event wou'd have disconcerted all Measures for the ensuing Scene, & frus-

trated the grandest Design that ever was projected in this Quarter,<sup>1</sup> — Since we have been here, 11 of the English Fleet with a 60 Gun Ship have drop'd in, who seperated from the Whole in a Fog on the Bank of Newfoundland — they have on board 11 Regiments, convoy'd by 15 Sail of the Line & 5 Frigates, under the command of Vice Admir! Holbourn<sup>2</sup> evr'y moment we expect to see them in the Offing, & immediately on their Arrival we proceed, but God knows where, tho' generally supposed to be against Louisbourgh — We are well assur'd theres 21 or 22 french sail of the Line laying ready for us, who brō over lately 12 french Regiments, & an hourly Expectation of more, with the 3 Regiments at y<sup>e</sup> Place We shall have in all 20. 19 of w<sup>ch</sup> consisting of as many thousands they being all compleat will embark on y<sup>e</sup> Expedition, & yet many are diffident of our Success, for by so considerable an Armament as the Enemy are said to have against us, they are appris'd of our designs, & the Opposition will be violent. Hitherto we have been crowned with Success, all Health & Spirits greatly elated at our good Luck in escaping the French Fleet. — What but y<sup>e</sup> Influence of Heaven cou'd induce Beaufremont after he had cruised off this Place 6 Weeks, having known of our Embarkation, & confident of our Weakness to leave it 6 days before our Appearance, had he fell in with us, not only the Loss of our Troops but the taking of our General must have been the Conse-

<sup>1</sup> Lord Loudoun's expedition against Louisburg.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Holburne, Vice-Admiral of the Blue, who had sailed from Cork in May with a fleet of ships of war and transports intended for the reduction of Louisburg He reached Halifax July 9.

quence. — In all likelihood the Fate of America is impending, & the Revolution of 6 Weeks will greatly change the face of Affairs in regard to the british Interest in America. — Heaven avert the worst<sup>1</sup> — I send the List of our Squadron & the Regiments on this Expedition,<sup>2</sup> — if it gets to hand soon it will be the more amusing. — I shall make it my business at any time to transmit you, what I may think new or agreeable, & I hope whilst you do me the honour to receive them, you'l think I execute the Task with great Pleasure —

here is all the Preparations you can conceive, such a design can require, more than I can imagine & much more than I can describe. — If I am well, I shall write you from the next Place

Interim wishing you <sup>ye</sup> greatest Felicity  
I subscribe S<sup>r</sup> with  
g̃. reg<sup>d</sup>. F. m̃. ob<sup>t</sup>

JN<sup>o</sup> HALL

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FROM GOVERNOR DENNY<sup>3</sup> TO COLONEL STANWIX.

PHILADELPHIA 7<sup>th</sup> July 1757.

DEAR SIR

I acknowledge the Receipt of your kind Letter of the Twenty Eight of June with the Papers, which I

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Hall's gloomy forebodings were realized in the pestilence that subsequently scourged the fleet, and in the violent storm on the night of September 4, which drove many of the ships on shore and dismasted almost all. Governor Dinwiddie, in his letter of November 24 to Colonel Bouquet, mentions having "news of the disaster attending the Squadron under Admiral Houlbourn in a violent storm, when the Tilbury a 60-Gun ship and a sloop was lost."

<sup>2</sup> See Wynne's *History of the British Empire in America*, vol. ii. p. 70.

<sup>3</sup> Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania from August, 1756, to October, 1759. This, the original letter, evidently forwarded by Colonel Stanwix to Washington.

have copied and are all returned You. I am glad the Affair does not turn out so bad as was expected, tho' a great deal of Mischief may be done by such a strong Party dividing itself into small ones, and murdering the Inhabitants — Woud but the People take up Arms, and hunt the Indians as they are hunted themselves, they might better protect their Wives, Children and Plantations.

I think with M<sup>r</sup> Croghan that the Cherokees should be well rewarded, and shall recommend it to the Commissioners to furnish the necessary Presents.

I have this morning received a Letter, giving me an Account, that Teedyuscung<sup>1</sup> is arrived at Fort Allen, and expects One Hundred Seneca Indians there, to accompany him to the Treaty which is to be held at Easton. I will not proceed to treat till M<sup>r</sup> Croghan either comes to me, or I know he is at Easton. It is left to him to take which Road he pleases. Pray send an Express with my Letter to him wherever he is. He can likewise assist the Commissioners to provide things for the Cherokee Present, which may be sent up to You, if You please to take upon You the Trouble of employing some proper Person to distribute them.

I very much approve of your burying the bad Pro-

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<sup>1</sup> King Teedyscung, chief of the Delawares, whose behavior had already given much concern. "The King and his wild Company were perpetually drunk, very much on the gascoon, and at times abusive to the inhabitants, for they all spoke English more or less. The King was full of himself, saying frequently, that which side soever he took must stand, and the other fall; repeating it with insolence, that he came from the French, who had pressed him much to join them against the English, that now he was in the middle between the French and English, quite disengaged from both sides and whether he joined with the English or French he would publish it aloud to the World that all nations might know it."—Diary of Major Parsons, *Pennsylvania Archives*, vol. ii. p. 724.

visions, and ordering the Men to be supplied with good, which I shall communicate to the Commissioners with your Remarks on the *new Doctrine in Service*, in not trusting the Commander of a Battalion with a single Shilling of ready Money. The Governor is upon the same Footing.

M<sup>r</sup> Peters sends You the Gazette, in which You will see a Paragraph of the sailing of Admiral Holbourne with Fifteen Sail of the Line &c, of which I give You Joy. Capt. Rankin is a Person of Character and may be depended on.

I am, Dear Sir, very sincerely

Your most obedient  
humble servant

WILLIAM DENNY.

Pray make my compliments, and say something for me to the Officers.

Please to forward the enclosed Letter to M<sup>r</sup> Atkin at Winchester; it comes from Sir William Johnson, & contains Matters of Consequence. If he should be gone, Col. Washington will send it after him wherever he is.

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN DAGWORTHY.

FORT CUMBERLAND July 10<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Yesterday in the Evening came to this Fort a whiteman & a Negro, the whiteman have Examin'd upon Oath which have Inclosed, and the Negro be-

ing separately Examin'd confirms w<sup>t</sup> the other Says,  
I am Sir

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup>  
humble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
JN<sup>o</sup> DAGWORTHY

*Deposition of John Street.*

FORT CUMBERLAND July the 10<sup>th</sup> 1757.

The Deposition of John Street formerly a Drummer at Fort Granville in Captain Ward's Company, taken before me one of his Lordship's Justices for Frederick County in the Province of Maryland, Deposeth and Saith that sometime In Last Harvest, that Fort was Attack't in the Captain's Absence, and the Second day Surrender'd thro the Cowardice of the Serjant, who Succeeded in Command Lieutenant Armstrong he being kill'd in the Engagement, that after they had Surrendered, this Deponant with the rest of the Prisoners was Caryed to the Kittaning Town, where they made no Stay but proceeded in a Battoe to Fort Duquesne with Such Prisoners as was given to the Shawnees a Dividend first being made, of all the Prisoners to the different nations, who composed the Party that took the Fort, they made but one Nights Stay at Fort Duquesne, then Proceeded to a Small Town Two Miles below that Fort where he Continued till the Spring, when he was Removed to Logg Town, where he Continued till some time in May, when he went to Fort Du Quesne to wait on an Indian Trader, and Continued with him near a month and then came off for this place, and was Sixteen days on his Journey here, during what time he saw no Signs of a Man till he came to this Fort, This Deponant farther Saith that when he came Last to Fort Du Quesne with the Trader, that Garrison Consisted of Between three and Four Hundred French and a few Indians, that about three weeks Agoe they were Reinforced by two hundred French from Massapipi with a great Quantity of Provisions, what they brought in About Twelve Large Boates, that there was great Rejoicing by firing Canon and Small Arms at their Arrivall, that About Two Hundred men French and Indians went out a few days after in Pursuit of our Scouting Partys

who had ~~taken~~ kill'd and taken three of their Officers and three Soldiers, but on hearing of two Squaws being Scalp'd near the Garrison after they had Left it, they all Immediately Returned, that Several Partys have since went out to these Frontiers, and Particularly one to prevent this Garrison being Supply'd with Provisions, which they understood was in great need of. That Seven hundred Frenchmen was Waiting at a Fort on this Side the Lakes for the Waters Rising, when they are to come down to Fort Du Quesne, and from thence with a body of Indians to attack this Fort, that the Officer who Commanded the Party from the Massapipi is to Command on this Expedition, and that the train of Artillery is to Consist of Six Canon two mortars &c and farther saith not

his  
JOHN X STREET  
Mark

Taken before me the day and year above written

JN<sup>o</sup> DAGWORTHY

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FROM COLONEL STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLISLE 11<sup>th</sup> July 1757

SIR

had I had any Oppertunity of returning an Answer to the Favour of yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> of June should have acknowledged it much sooner but would not mis the Oppertunity of this Express to M<sup>r</sup> Atkins w<sup>ch</sup> I send in the manner as Gover<sup>r</sup> Denny tells me the letter is to him of moment from Sir William Johnson and that if he has left your Country you will know how to Forward it to him. I have had sever<sup>l</sup> partys out Scouting on these Borders as far as Raystown & so on over these North Mountains nothing material, a few stragling Indians this week who have shot on Women & Children but killed as

yet one Horse, Col: Wesser<sup>1</sup> tells me his is pesterd with a good many more of them on their borders from the Susquehanna & where a good deal of Mischief has been done but they should have there & at Shemokin 600 Provincials at least or 800 as none are yet gone to S. Carolina,

as to your Country Militia all I believe we are to expect from them is their Guarding the Forts in Case the Provincials march forward except they were to go upon a Comānd they liked this might carry them out of their Country.

there is no doubt but Ad<sup>l</sup>: Holburn has joyn'd Lord Loudoun before this off Hallifax we may soon expect to here of something being attempted in the North which at present takes up the whole attention both of Europe & America, your willingness to allow me to wait upon you w<sup>th</sup> the Troop, and your Comānd is very Obliging, and no orders from me shall move you from your present Station where you had Instructions to remain, except the most Urgent Necessity, my General Instructions are to remain here where I am trying to throw up some useful retrenchm<sup>ts</sup> but shall think myself justified to march when it appears to me that the publick service on the back of any of these southern provinces may want Assistance, I beg you will believe that I am very truly

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Your most  
obed<sup>t</sup>: humble Serv<sup>t</sup>:  
JOHN STANWIX

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Conrad Weisser?

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FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.

NEW LONDON 13<sup>th</sup> July 1757

DEAR SIR

My not answering my Friend's letters Punctually is not owing to want of Respect or Regard but am Often Prevented by Business, and the Cares of Life, or some other Accidents for which I never fail to Condemn myself and sue for Pardon as I now do to you for not Answering your kind favor from Phil<sup>a</sup> you Please me my dear Friend in what you say with Regard to the *Campain and your being employ'd.* the great have all there Reasons of state for what they doe, how <sup>vast</sup> ~~much~~ <sup>be the Surprize</sup> must <sup>^</sup> those ~~wonder~~ who know you and the scene you have been engaged in for these several years to see you Continue unnoticed; when they that have only heard of your name think it both Cruel and hard — you form a Very just and true judgment of those in Places & Power Our Country is our first Care and demands all our best Endeavours but not the sacrificing ourselves without a Prospect of doing that or ourselves any Good —

I hope the Conclusion of the Summer may bring forth something at Present Every thing looks dark & Gloomy. I find no fault with the measures <sup>taken</sup> and the scripture forbids us to speak Evil of the Rulers of the Land; however I am Convinced and satisfied if some of our Country men had been imploy'd and those who had served with Credit & honnour been Rewarded or Noticed it Could have been attended with no Ill or bad Consequence —

it is now the middle of July no Certainty of any

Fleets arrival from England there is a Rumour they have been Speak with by a Fisherman, but those Gentry are seldom to be depended upon there is also a Report that Lord Loudoun is Arrived at Halyfax which I sincerely wish may be truth. it is out of Dispute that there is 8 sail of the Line in Louisbourgh and our Acco<sup>ts</sup> from Martinico as Late as June 12<sup>th</sup> say Mons<sup>r</sup> *Bourparr*<sup>1</sup> their Late General had taken the Command of seven sail of the Line & three Frigates with which it is strongly suspected he intended to sail for Louisbourgh if these two fleets or squadrons joyn, I am much afraid the utmost of our Expedition will be to secure Halyfax — I wish these Reports may be groundless, that Admiral Holborn may soon arrive and Lord Loudoun be able to Carry his Plan into Execution with such success as will may Reder [render] his name dear & Famous to his Country and give Peace to us here in the Poor ~~miserable~~ depress'd Colonys — I shall inclose you a Boston Paper in this and Refer you to that for further news —

as to the Latter part of your Letter what shall I say, I often had the Pleasure of Breakfasting with the Charming Polly,<sup>1</sup> Roger Morris was there (dont be startled) but not always, you know him he is a Ladys man, always something to say, the Town talk't of it as a sure & settled Affair. I can't say I think so and that I much doubt it, but assure you had Little Acquaintance with M<sup>r</sup> Morris and only slightly hinted it to Miss Polly; but how can you

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<sup>1</sup> Bompert.

<sup>1</sup> Mary Philipse, who, as we remember, married this same Roger Morris.

be Excused to Continue so long at Phil<sup>a</sup>. I think I should have made a kind of Flying march of it if it had been only to have seen whether the Works were sufficient to withstand a Vigorous Attack, you a Soldier and a Lover. mind I have been arguing for my own Interest now for had you taken this method then I should have had the Pleasure of seeing you — my Paper is almost full and I am Convinced you will be heartily tyred in Reading it — however will just add that I intend to set out tomorrow for New York where I will not be wanting to let Miss Polly know the sincere Regard ~~you~~ a Friend of mine has for her. and I am sure if she had my Eyes to see thro she would Prefer him to all others my Respects to Capts. Mercer & Stewart, if my Brother is in your way let him know I am well, now my Dear Friend I wish you Eternall Happiness and Content and assure you that I am with sincere Esteem

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOS CHEW

The post brings an Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Arrival of the Fleet from England for which the Lord be praised —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG July 13<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> y<sup>rs</sup> of 27<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup>. As to M<sup>r</sup> Gun, if he rejects Lieut<sup>s</sup> Pay, I shall not give him more, & I hear he is come down the Country.

I wrote You pretty fully by Jenkins to which be

refer'd. I now send You 400 Arms, which with those You have will be sufficient to Arm the Draughts &c. they come in under the Care of Serjeant Fent, who appears to me to be a deserving Young Man, I therefore desire You to give him an Ensign's Commission. I now send You sixteen Blank Com̄issns to be fill'd up for Subalterns according to their merit, which You must be a better Judge of than I. — As I have not a Return of the Draughts from each County, I cannot tell their Numbers, but hope they are at least sufficient to compleat the eight Compa<sup>s</sup> remain<sup>s</sup> in the Country; if enough for twelve Companies, that is, ten here besides those gone to S<sup>o</sup> Carolina, write me, & Y<sup>r</sup> Opinion who sh<sup>d</sup> have Cap<sup>ts</sup> Com̄iss<sup>s</sup>.

And after You have compleated the Company to 100 Men each in Rank & file, I desire You to detach Sufficient to Augusta, agreeable to the Disposition made by L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun; but as I remember, You tho<sup>t</sup> some other Places more proper (than were there determin'd on) for covering that Frontier, I refer that to You; & I think an Officer shou'd be sent there to supervise the whole; if You think Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis a proper Person for that Service I agree to it — And the Men remain<sup>s</sup> with You, You are to dispose of them in the most eligible Method for the Service & Protect<sup>n</sup> of the Inhabitants reserving sufficient to finish Fort Loudoun.

I wonder You did not send me Copy of Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix's L<sup>r</sup> to You. — I acknowledge I am surpriz'd at the long Time the Fort has been build<sup>s</sup> & hope You will with all possible Dispatch complete it.

I hope before this You have all the Draughts at Fort Loudoun, & put them in proper Order, after which read the Articles of War at the head of each Company — I observe what You write about the Militia their refractory Temper & not coming up properly provided according to Law which I shall particularly notice when they come to be paid; I think You had 100 Militia from Prince W<sup>m</sup>, but I doubt not before this You have sent them all Home.

I approve of Y<sup>r</sup> delivering some of the Ammunt<sup>n</sup> to the poor Inhabitants, as I doubt not Y<sup>r</sup> frugality on that Head — I read D<sup>r</sup> Ross's Letter in regard to the Provisions delivered C<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy at F<sup>t</sup> Cumberland I have wrote fully to Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe on that Head; there can be no Objection to their replacing the other Species at F<sup>t</sup> Loudoun, that they do not find Fault with, & that of the Beef to be adjusted afterwards which You are to insist on.

I believe the Treas<sup>r</sup> sent up 2000<sup>l</sup> to pay the Draughts, as he had my Warrant for that Sum, w<sup>ch</sup> was suppos'd here to be sufficient. — I know not what may be wanting to pay the Demands with You, on that Head You should be more explicit — M<sup>r</sup> Boyd had 6000 to pay the Arrears of the Reg<sup>mt</sup> which with 2000 formerly paid the two Compa<sup>s</sup> sent to S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> I understood from him wou'd pay the Arrears, & 4000 for Provisions, if deficient You sh<sup>d</sup> write how much, at same Time I think he had all that was sign'd.

The Guns at C<sup>o</sup> Hunters cannot be paid at present, but 14 Great Guns mounted at Fort Loudoun I think will make a good Defence. I have been

much fatigued in getting Goods for the Ind<sup>s</sup> wch I now send with Inv<sup>o</sup> under Cover to M<sup>r</sup> Atkin ; if he is gone open the Letter ; & if he has appointed a Deputy deliver them to him ; if M<sup>r</sup> Gist is the Person I think he must have Cap<sup>ts</sup> Pay ; but M<sup>r</sup> Atkin wrote me he expected Maryl<sup>d</sup> to contribute to the Charge at Present &c. as it's hard on this Cotry to be at the whole Expence — Whoever is left in trust by him must be particularly careful in keeping an exact Acc<sup>t</sup> to what Nat<sup>n</sup> of Ind<sup>s</sup> & at what Time the Goods are given to them — M<sup>r</sup> Atkin desired a B<sup>i</sup> of Powder & Some Lead — which You are to supply.

It is not tho<sup>t</sup> necessary to have a Co<sup>m</sup>miss<sup>r</sup> of Musters, as the Pay M<sup>r</sup> must make a Return of the Men as he pays them.

You see the great Confidence I place in You which I hope You will discharge with Care & Probity. —

I remain

Sir

Your h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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*List of Officers in the Virg<sup>a</sup> Regmt<sup>1</sup>*

C <sup>t</sup> Hogg . . . . .	Aug <sup>t</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 1755	C <sup>t</sup> Savage . . . . .	20
C <sup>t</sup> Mercer . . . . .	15 <sup>th</sup>	C <sup>t</sup> Bronaugh . . . . .	21
C <sup>t</sup> Waggoner . . . . .	16	C <sup>t</sup> Mercer . . . . .	22
C <sup>t</sup> Stewart . . . . .	18	C <sup>t</sup> Lewis . . . . .	23
C <sup>t</sup> Cocke . . . . .	19	C <sup>t</sup> Woodward . . . . .	25

<sup>1</sup> Indorsed by Washington, "From Secretary Withers — List of officers — 13th July 1757."



Drum! yet least this should not be so have inclosed that which he sent me what Stress there is to be laid on it I can not say, but by your Corp! give you the trouble & if there should be any truth in it will put us upon our Guard, tho' I rather think if the Enemy are so strong as represent'd at Fort Duquesne & the Lakes they would be more likely detach't to the North where Lord Loudoun is trying to make the Greatest Effort as I wrote You two days ago Shall only add that I am

Sir Your Most obed<sup>t</sup>  
 hum<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>  
 JOHN STANWIX

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FROM WILLIAM RAMSAY, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA July 15th 1757 —

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

I am favored with yours, M<sup>r</sup> Barnes Accepts your proposals. M<sup>r</sup> Barnes did not doubt the goodness of the Mine, but was rather too sanguine in his expectations from the prospect. As he was incumbred he hop'd to raise three or four hundred pounds that way, but was to return it if the Search shou'd not answer, by the Sale of the whole Land, if not otherwise to be Accomplish'd.

I have engag'd you two Shares, M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle two, wch are all that are to be dispos'd of. I suppose you will give M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle instructions with regard to your Share, if I can be of any service you know you may comm<sup>d</sup> me — A Gent<sup>l</sup> in Town Yesterday from the head of the Bay says we may depend on the Fleets

being Arriv'd, if so, we may hope to have it confirm'd next post — There are already employ'd in the Works 6 Men, two more I think will be enough to carry on two Shafts at a time, & if Industrious, three Months may determine our search, at most four. I wish you great Success in this & all your other enterprizes & am with regard

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Your Aff<sup>t</sup>

H Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> RAMSAY

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

BELVOIR, 17. July — 57.

DEAR S<sup>r</sup>

I recd y<sup>r</sup> Favor by M<sup>r</sup> Kirkpat<sup>t</sup> and sorry that our Men have deserted in the great Number You mention, to Remedy Such an evil Tendency appears improbable and whilst a branch of the Legislature seems afraid to enact a more forcible Law, all Delinquents will find an Asylum to skreen them — I am glad You are in a near Prospect of making Fort Loudoun defensible against an Enemy not very numerous and assisted with battering Cannon. You have or will be furnished with two good Mortars, some Coehorn's and Granado Shells &c — I hope as most necessary

If M<sup>r</sup> Atkyn continues to disoblige the Indians thereby causing a general Dissatisfaction, I think You should acquaint the Governor therewith, who together with the Council may let him know their

Sentiments that if He perseveres in his uncōmon Manner they will represent the Facts to L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun who is to pay his Salary I suppose on his meriting it — I wish You may be able to form the Companys so as to admit your visiting Us ab<sup>t</sup> the first of next M<sup>o</sup>

I have been lately advisd, that My Son William Hy. was seen ab<sup>t</sup> a Week ago at M<sup>r</sup> Nicholas's, supposing He came in the late Ships from England. He signified to Me that his Desires were to Serve and act in the Military, of which I acquainted You when You set off for Philadelphia — If therefore a Lieut<sup>s</sup> Comission in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment be vacant, Please to acquaint the Governor as I shall do as soon as Billy comes up, for I would not have him loose much Time in equipping himself for the laudable Undertaking. I persuade my Self Billy will be more Steady than Bryan has prov'd, and give You more Pleasure to encourage his Improvement in Military Skill —

I am glad Capt Gist is likely to be employed in Indian Affairs to his Advantage. His Daughter lives with Us and is kindly treated by M<sup>rs</sup> Fx and Miss Hannah —

At ☉ set<sup>1</sup>

Billy this moment arrived, and I have acquainted him with the foregoing Article relating to his being Comissioned in our Regiment. He has brought Letters of Recommendation to L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun & Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercrombie, but as it is obvious there are many young Gent<sup>en</sup> with L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun serving as Volunteers as Cadets which no doubt expect to be first Comis-

<sup>1</sup> Identical with the original, meaning Sunset.

sion'd It may be a long Time before Billy may have the Chance to be an Officer — The Letters to L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun & Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercrombie may be sent And I shall request L<sup>d</sup> Fx to joyn his kind Recommendation of Billy to L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun. In the mean time Billy can begin his first Rudiments under y<sup>r</sup> Discipline and if L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun sh<sup>d</sup> favor him w<sup>th</sup> his Commands, they can be attended. I hope We are not too late for a Comission under You, w<sup>ch</sup> please to make known to the Gov<sup>r</sup> as I shall soon do. The best Wishes of the Family attend You. Witness

Y<sup>r</sup> affect & obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> &c  
W. FAIRFAX

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG July 18<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Your two Letters of 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> by Jenkins & observe their Contents — I wrote You the 13<sup>th</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> sent up by Serj<sup>t</sup> Fent — There will soon be Publicat<sup>s</sup> for any Persons inclineable to contract for Provisions for the Forces at Winchester, & those in Augusta; they are to give in their Proposals in Writing, & by this Method I hope they will be properly supplied.

The Money remaining of the 2000<sup>l</sup> for Drafts may be applied to Conting<sup>t</sup> Charges, the Acc<sup>ts</sup> to be kept seperate — And this Day have sign'd a Warrant for 1500 more paym<sup>t</sup> of Arrears due on Provisions, which the Treasurer is to deliver to M<sup>r</sup> Walker — that I expect will be sufficient to pay all Arrearages.

— I do not understand the Demands of the People for Ind<sup>s</sup> an Acc<sup>t</sup> of them sh<sup>d</sup> be sent down here. — Jenkins has rec<sup>d</sup> £31 “ . 3 “ . 3 for the two Receipts for Skins for the Ind<sup>s</sup> — & You are to continue Jenkins in Pay he giving close attendance.

I sent You by Fent 16 blank Com<sup>s</sup> which I doubt not You will fill up carefully & to those of most Merit & Spirit. — Our Print<sup>s</sup> Office is so much engaged in printing the Paper Money, that I cou<sup>d</sup> not get the Mutiny & Desertion Act in Print, but You have a Copy of it atested by the Clerk of the Assembly. The former Com<sup>o</sup> for holding Gen<sup>l</sup> Court Martials wou<sup>d</sup> have done, but in Case of its being mislaid I send You a new one; & six blank Warrants to be made use of as occasion may require.

It's too premature to appoint C<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neill in the room of C<sup>t</sup> Spotswood, as I hope we shall have some good Acc<sup>t</sup> of him. You are to allow the two Officers to resign on their Application, appoint<sup>s</sup> as good Men in their room — When You have form<sup>d</sup> Y<sup>t</sup> Compa<sup>s</sup> send me a Muster Roll of each Company sepearte with the Names of each private Man, Serj<sup>t</sup> Corporal & Drums, sign<sup>d</sup> by the Capt<sup>s</sup> & Subalterns. — The Detachm<sup>t</sup> intended for Augusta will be supplied with Provisions from Col<sup>o</sup> Clem<sup>t</sup> Read, Coty<sup>1</sup> Lieu<sup>t</sup> of Lunenberg, who will order them to the Place the Forces may be destined to.

I am uneasy on reading the List of the Many Deserters from the Drafts, I shall advise & publish Advertisem<sup>ts</sup> for apprehending them if possible, tho'

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<sup>1</sup> County.

they are too much countenanc'd & protected to the Shame of the Country.

Col: Stanwix's Acc<sup>t</sup> I have perused, & must observe thereon, that Your Allowance is much more than there specified; & as the officers have very great Pay, I adhere to my former Regulation as to Bat Men, & that they appear in Rank & File; — You well know the Country has always paid the Waggons, & Col: Stephen employ'd no less than nine Waggons to his two Companies — The Rations mention'd by Col: Stanwix I conceive is in lieu of Provisions, but if the Officers are supplied with Provisions these Rations are out of the Question.

The Information of Jn<sup>o</sup> Street I hope is sent Col: Stanwix; I cannot believe the Acc<sup>t</sup> of 700 French Men from the Lakes to Fort Du Quesne, as its natural to think they will collect all the Force they can to form a strong Body to the N<sup>o</sup> w<sup>d</sup> against Lord Loudoun, but however its necessary to be greatly on Your guard & look out. —

I shall be very glad to have a specifick Acc<sup>t</sup> of the number of Drafts those that were paid the Bounty Money & had their Regimentals before they deserted — As I wrote You in my last about the Provisions left at Fort Cumb<sup>l</sup>d, You must settle it in the best manner You can.

I hope I have omitted nothing essential, indeed I am not in Health for writing long letters.

I wish You health & am

Sir

Your hble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE.

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FROM THE HONORABLE MR. SPEAKER ROBINSON.

W<sup>M</sup>BURGH July 18. 1757

DEAR SIR/

I recd your favour of the 10<sup>th</sup> Instant by Jenkins, and am not a little concerned, that you should harbour the <sup>least</sup> ~~last~~ thought of my forgetting you, which if I know myself is impossible for me to do, but shall always with the greatest satisfaction remember ~~that~~ ~~I have~~ the friendship which has and I flatter myself will always subsist between us<sup>1</sup> —

I have procured a Copy of the Mutiny Act for you and delivered it to the Gov<sup>r</sup> who will send it you by Jenkins, by which you will see better than I can inform you by Letter how you are to proceed, the Gov<sup>r</sup> will also send you a Commission for the Trial of Offenders, I am very sorry to find such a dastardly spirit among our Drafts, & I think a speedy Example should be made of some of them, that others may be deterred from following their destructive Example.

As we could not tell what the Arrears for provisions amounted to the Gov<sup>r</sup> thought the £4000 — — Sent by Boyd would be sufficient till the Acc<sup>ts</sup> could be sent, and he would now upon your Letter have sent a further Sum, but it was not thought proper to send so much by Jenkins, but he has given me a Warrant for £1500, — payable to M<sup>r</sup> Walker, who I expect to see this Week, when I shall pay it to him, and I suppose he will go immediately up with it, the Gov<sup>r</sup> will direct how the overplus of the £2000 —

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<sup>1</sup> "I did indeed," Washington had written, "begin to think (tho' I cou'd scarcely believe it) that you had quite forgotten me."

shall be applied. I have sent by Jenkins £164. 1. 5. As to M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle you may pay him deducting only the 25. 1. — as there is little doubt of the Com allowing him the  $\frac{3}{4}$  of his former Acc<sup>ts</sup>. As the Gov<sup>r</sup> has the sole disposal of Money that was last given for the Support of the Regiment, the Directions and Orders for cloathing must come from him and I am afraid you will have some difficulty to persuade him to let you reserve any Benefit from it.<sup>1</sup>

I am heartily concerned at the unhappy fate of poor Spotswood as I am afraid there is little hope of his being alive. We have no news here worth writing, I am with the greatest truth

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Your Sincere & Affect<sup>d</sup> Friend

JOHN ROBINSON

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FROM COLONEL STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLISLE July 18<sup>th</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR —

a Cherokee Indian is just arrived here & has put the ten Indians waiting at this place for presents from this Collony into very ill humour, by telling them that their Brothers have been put into Prison at Winchester,<sup>2</sup> so that it [was] with the Greatest

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<sup>1</sup> "We are greatly distressed for want of arms for the Draughts. I have mentioned this to the Governor; but on this head, as on most others, he is silent." — Washington to Treasurer Robinson.

<sup>2</sup> Some Cherokees having come into Winchester and been unable to give a satisfactory account of themselves, Mr. Atkin had demanded their arrest as spies, notwithstanding Washington's representation of the consequences of such hostile action. Some difficulty was experienced in persuading the rest of the Cherokees that it was a mistake, and retaining the friendship of this important tribe.

difficulty I could prevail with them to stay till this afternoon to take with them to our Fort Loudoun <sup>1</sup> £400 worth of presents to be there distributed after they joyn, but these Cherokees have insisted upon their interpreter <sup>Mr. Smith</sup> going off directly to you to know the worst and have given them the strongest assurances (w<sup>ch</sup> I am sure I could do with great safety) that you will do them the greatest justice, and if any mistake has happened that you will make them the most ample satisfaction as M<sup>r</sup>: Smith their interpreter & the bearer of this is press'd much by the Indians to set off it prevents my saying any more than that I am with great truth

Sir Your most obed<sup>t</sup>  
humble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
JOHN STANWIX

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA, 20<sup>th</sup> July

DEAR SIR

I recd y<sup>r</sup>: Favor of the 17<sup>th</sup> inst. this Day by your Messenger.

The Narrative of the Deposition recited, seems to agree with what is contained in the Northern Papers as to the Reinforcement of Men, Provisions, &c. brought up the Mississippi, which together with what's imported to Louisburg and Quebeck the French have found Time eno' to strengthen every Fortress and Place We have been long Whispering

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<sup>1</sup> In Pennsylvania.

to attack, So that notwithstanding the Endeavors of L<sup>d</sup> L. to keep his intended Operations a Secret, they are too well known or guest at in Europe —

I writ this Day by the Post to the Governor acquainting Him of my Son William Hy being now with Me and desirous of a Lieut<sup>s</sup> Comission in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment, being told of some Vacancys. I am unwilling to discourage so good a Disposition especially as I find him capable of the highest Attainments, And if He is favor'd With the desir'd Comission I am persuaded He will do Credit to the Corps and Merit your Friendly Countenance. He has made a Beginning towards acquiring Some Knowledge in the Theory of Fortification &c I shall be glad to know y<sup>r</sup> Thoughts that I may equipp Him accordingly. Having a Report that some Indians have been lately taken up and imprisond at Winchester being more than Suspected as Spies I am Somewhat doubtful of the Truth as You are Silent about it— If any circumstantial Proof to corroborate what the noted Warrior Jemmy Bullen Suggested, They deserve to be punishd as Spies.

Col<sup>o</sup> Carlyle is as desirous as You can be to have y<sup>r</sup> late Brother's Estate Settled to mutual Satisfaction. We all send our Friendly Greetings, and I am

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> very affect<sup>e</sup> & obed<sup>t</sup>

W. FAIRFAX

FROM EDMUND ATKIN, ESQ.

SIR

When the 10 Indians were taken into Custody yesterday was Se'ennight, you may remember I expressed my Desire, that they might be treated in point of Necessaries rather better than before, because it was pretended that two of them were Cherokees — On Saturday Morning being informed, that the Prisoners made great Complaint for want of fresh Meat and that Some of them had contracted Fluxes by a Diet they had not been used to, I took the Liberty to Send for the Provincial Commissary's Clerk, & made an Inquiry from him about it. He told me, "it was true they had before that time had no fresh Meat; that the Commissary was disappointed of Some Cattle he expected the Evening before, which would certainly be here that Night; and the Prisoners should have fresh Meat the next Morning." I remember you told me Soon after my first coming here, that the Indians in general might have fresh Meat (of which they were desirous) as well as Salt, it being all one to the Publick. On Sunday afternoon D<sup>r</sup> Craick, who had been called in to the Relief of the Sick Prisoners, told me, that they had had no fresh Meat; and that he thought it was absolutely necessary for them, being in a bad Condition. And I desired, that he would require it.

This forenoon the Jailer was with me expressing his Concern for the Resentment the Prisoners shewed for their Treatment having had only about 4<sup>lb</sup> of fresh Beef brought & dressed by the Cook (one of

your Soldiers) on Monday, and yesterday 4 or 5<sup>lb</sup> (besides Bacon), among them all. Whereupon I sent again for the Commissary's Clerk, who told me, "that he delivered to the Cook for those Prisoners 35<sup>lb</sup> of fresh Beef on Monday, & 18<sup>lb</sup> yesterday besides the remainder of the Allowance in Bacon; And that he had not any fresh Meat to give them this day, but proposed to send Bacon;" which the Jailer said, most of the Prisoners Stomachs Nauseate so much, that they cannot Swallow it.

This gives me no Small Concern; because if when the Cherokee Chiefs now out at War come to Town, it should appear that two of the Prisoners are Cherokees for whom they shall think fit to interest themselves; and it should unluckily prove to be the Case of either of those very Indians to die in the Prison, I cannot answer what will be the consequence to his Majestys service. My own Opinion is, that while any fresh Meat is to be had, those Prisoners ought not to go without it, whoever else do. I would rather go without any myself, for one.

Had I any Authority over the Persons concerned in this Affair I would certainly punish some Body or other. As it is, I lay the Matter before you, not in the least doubting that you will inquire further into it, & do whatever shall appear to you to be right.

I am

Sir

Your Most Obed: Serv<sup>t</sup>

EDM<sup>d</sup> ATKIN

WINCHESTER 20 July 1757

P. S.

The Beer sent to the Prisoners was so bad, that they could not drink it, and one of my Servants who tasted it, said it was not fit to drink.

I think it very odd, that the getting fresh Provision should be left till the Indians are waiting to eat it.

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FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA 21<sup>st</sup> July 1757 —

DEAR SIR

I am honor'd with yours of the 17<sup>th</sup> inclosing a list of articles necessary for the Artillery — which cannot readily be procured here by what endeavours I have yet had occasion to make — indeed some trifling things may be had, viz<sup>t</sup> Sheepskins, Hair Cloths, Old Junk, Sifters and some spirits of Wine — the others will be difficult to meet with nigher than Philadelphia — if there — the Match I believe is not made in the Country — & had we Copper & tinn, the Ladles & Measures might be made, as also the Lanthorn — unless it is of a Particular kind — However, no pains shall be spared to accomplish any part of them — I shall be at Rock Creek in a day or two, and will enquire if any of them are amongst the Stores left in Col<sup>o</sup> Beales care — M<sup>r</sup> Carlyle tells me The Magazine at Williamsburg is well Supply'd with all or most of these things — from whence you may be Compleatly furnish'd — but, on what Authority he grounds his information, I cannot affirm —

You have, I dare say before now rece<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Ram-  
say's Letter in respect of your mining adventure, in  
which I desired he might be explicit as you was  
anxious to know the terms — He has procured You  
two shares I think, the rest being taken up before —  
I wish You great Success in it —

The Dangers that threaten<sup>d</sup>, Fort Cumberland. I  
observe, are not entirely blown over, — by severall  
presumptive Circumstances we may imagine an At-  
tempt intended, and in Consequence of its weakness  
will fall a Sacrifice — Then May we Listen for Mel-  
ancholy Accompts from every Quarter — Your Dis-  
appointment in the Augmentation of Your Regi-  
ment — the Fatigue, Uneasiness, and Dissatisfaction,  
You daily encounter in every Branch of the Service  
are Subject of Much regret — I sincerely wish You  
every Happiness this Life can Afford, or the next  
can Bestow, & am

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Your Much Obliged Serv<sup>t</sup>

J<sup>N</sup><sup>o</sup> KIRKPATRICK

P. S. I shall be glad all ways to be employed }  
in any thing You have occasion for, this way }

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FROM THE REV. WILLIAM MELDRUM,<sup>1</sup>

26<sup>th</sup> July 1757

SIR/

When I did myself the pleasure to wait on you  
this morning, I proposed being in Town sometime

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<sup>1</sup> Of the parish of Frederick in Frederick County.

to-morrow Afternoon, with a view to assist all in my power, those unhappy wretches under Sentence, in preparing for Eternity. Something has happened Since that obliges me to absent myself, and not to attend agreeable to my then resolutions. If you are desirous to know the motives that have induced me to such a sudden (and seemingly inconsistent) change, shall referr you to M<sup>r</sup> Thomson, who, I flatter myself, will conceal no part of what I have already told him. I am w<sup>th</sup> unfeigned regard

Sir

Your most affect &  
most obed<sup>t</sup>: Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>:  
WILL: MELDRUM

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*Proclamation of Governor Sharpe.*

To all and Every of the Officers both Civil & Military  
in Baltimore County

It having been represented to me by Ensign Fell that there are many Deserters from the Virginia Regiment at this time harboured & concealed by sundry of the Inhabitants of Your County, and Colonel Washington having informed me that he has sent M<sup>r</sup> Fell to search for and apprehend such Deserters, I hereby desire and require You to assist him to the utmost of Your Power in the Execution of his Orders: & I recommend it to You in an especial Manner to secure or have secured all Deserters that may retire from His Majesty's Regular or the Provincial Forces to Your County for Shelter & Protection.

HOR<sup>o</sup> SHARPE

Given at ANNAPOLIS  
the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of July. 1757

FROM GOVERNOR SHARPE.

SIR

This serves to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter by M<sup>r</sup> Fell<sup>1</sup> & also to inclose You a Copy of a Deposition that was made by a Sergeant who was sent some time ago to apprehend the Deserters that You say are harboured in Baltimore County. Could M<sup>r</sup> Fell have named the Deserters I would have desired One of the Provincial Magistrates to issue a special Warrant for apprehending them, but as he did not recollect their Names I could do no more than give him a general Order directed to all the Civil Officers in that part of the Country where the Deserters are as it is supposed harboured, requiring them to assist him to the utmost of their Power in the Execution of Your Orders. I think it is now three Quarters of a Year since the Case of these Deserters & the Conduct of Captain Gist while he was recruiting here was represented to Me in such a Light as inclined me to think that he had used some Artifices that would on Examination be scarcely thought justifiable, however I gave the Gentlemen that addressed themselves to me on that Occasion no other Answer than that if the Fellows would enlist in the Royal American Regiment they would not be called to Account for Leaving the Virginia Service, which Assurance was I think given by Governor Dinwiddie in a Proclamation that was issued about that time, but whether any of them did thereupon engage I know not, neither did I hear any

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<sup>1</sup> Ensign Robert Fell.

thing more of them untill April last when ~~the~~ Sergeant Davis came to Baltimore & complained that a Deserter which he had apprehended had been rescued; On Enquiry it appeared that instead of carrying his Prisoner before a Magistrate who would have committed him, the Sergeant left him confined in an upper Room of some Constable's House, whence at the End of two Days he made his Escape thro a Window. Understanding that the Deserters whom the Sergeant was sent after were the persons in whose behalf some Gentlemen of the County had before made Application to me, I asked him several Questions concerning them & received for Answer what is contained in the Deposition above mentioned. The Sergeant afterwards asked me whether the four Men that he had enlisted could be punished for Desertion & on my saying that if they or any others had actually served the time for which they engaged They ought not, he desired to know whether he should then pursue his Orders & apprehend them, to which I answered that it was certainly his Duty to do so. From the Contents of the Paper that You sent inclosed I presume that he afterwards carried some of them before the Justices who signed that paper & that they upon the Sergeant's or some other Evidence thought proper to release them, but as I never heard of that Transaction before, I cannot tell what induced them to proceed in that manner, neither can I conceive how they came to mention my Name unless the Sergeant acquainted them with the Answer that I had given him viz<sup>t</sup> "that if the Men had served the Term for which they were enlisted they

ought not to be punished as Deserters. I shall write to M<sup>r</sup>: Boyce and desire to know what Men those were that he & the other Justice discharged & what Reasons moved them to do so, by the first Opportunity of Conveyance that shall offer after I receive it I shall communicate to You his Answer. With great Regard

I am Sir  
Your most obed<sup>t</sup>  
humb. Serv<sup>t</sup>  
HOR<sup>o</sup>: SHARPE

ANNAPOLIS  
the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1757.

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*Deposition of Sergeant Davis.*

BALTIMORE COUNTY ss/

On the 20<sup>th</sup> Day of April 1757. Came Richard Davis Serjeant in Captain Christopher Gist's Company in the Virginia Regiment before Me the Subscriber One of His Lordship's Justices of the Peace for the afd County of Baltimore Who being duly Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth & saith that on or about the fifth Day of February 1756 he was enlisted in Baltimore County by the afd Captain Gist to serve his Majesty in the Virginia Troops during the Space of Six Months from the Day of Enlistment and no longer. That immediately after the said Captain Gist made him this Deponent a Serjeant & gave him Orders to enlist any of his Comrades or other good Men for the same time. That in Obedience to such Orders He this Deponent did soon after enlist into the afd Regiment a certain William Stoxdale, Francis Brothers, Patrick Constantine, & Edward Constantine, who then resided in the County afd, assuring all & Each of them that They would not be required to serve longer than Six Months. that soon afterwards the said Recruits were marched to Winchester & joined the Regiment & continued to

serve therein as Soldiers for sometime ; but that they have now left the said Regiment & declare that they will not return thereto as they ought by their respective Agreements to have been regularly discharged at the End of Six Months

BUXTON GAY

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FROM WILLIAM RAMSAY, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA July 30th 1757

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

I wrote you in answer to both yours about the Mines to wch referr. — I am now to address you on a more interesting, but a more disagreeable Subject.

Know S<sup>r</sup> that I have been extreamly unfortunate in all my affairs, wch has greatly embarrass'd me, in Ord<sup>r</sup> to remedy wch, I have made Application to the Monied ones — My L<sup>d</sup> Fx, M<sup>r</sup> Speaker, M<sup>r</sup> Corbin, M<sup>r</sup> Cary & many others with<sup>t</sup> success, wch I put to the Acco<sup>t</sup> of my perverse fortune, not their want of ability to serve me.

As I hope a share in your friendship, permit me to request of you the loan of Two hundred or £250 before or at Oct<sup>r</sup> Gen Court next, for wch you shall be secur'd; you will do a very singular service to me with<sup>t</sup> prejudice I hope to your self, & also add to the many obligations I am already under, from your great inclination & desire to serve me, & tho hitherto without success, <sup>Yet</sup> calls for my gratefull acknowledgements.<sup>ts</sup><sup>1</sup> We may now depend on the Arrival of the Fleet at Halifax. A report prevails with great probability of truth that Prussia has taken Prague in wch

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<sup>1</sup> Washington responded to this appeal (as is shown by his ledger for 1757) by lending Mr. Ramsay £80 on August the 22d, and £70 on September the 20th.

he found 250 p<sup>s</sup> of cannon & made Upw<sup>ds</sup> of 12000  
Pris<sup>rs</sup> <sup>Fortune</sup> May attend him & victory wait his Banners  
'till he humble the proud & crush the ingratefull &  
that you may triumph over your Enimies & succeed  
in all your enterprizes is the sincere wish of my

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Your very Afft

H Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> RAMSAY

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FROM COLONEL STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLISLE Aug<sup>t</sup> 1<sup>t</sup>

1757

DEAR SIR

in answer to the favour of yours of the 30<sup>th</sup> July  
I am to say as to Indian affairs M<sup>r</sup> Atkins should  
know better than I, but treating them with severity  
& not being able to carry it thro': would not do with  
any other sort of People I had a long letter from  
him upon this head am glad however at last all was  
made up, have had a letter from the six chiefs them-  
selves who have assured me they are well satisfied.

'tis more than a fortnight ago that I answered your  
letter where you mention'd its being convenient to  
your private affairs to attend them for a fortnight,  
in w<sup>ch</sup> letter I express'd my Concern that you should  
think such a thing necessary to mention to me as  
I am sure you would not choose to be out of call  
should the service require your immediate attend-  
ance, & hope you will always take the liberty upon  
yourself which I hope you will now do as soon as

possible & have given your Drum<sup>r</sup> all dispatch  
possible who am

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Your most  
Obed<sup>t</sup> & most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
JOHN STANWIX

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA, 6<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR

I had y<sup>r</sup> Favor of the 28<sup>th</sup> July by Tebe. My Writing to You relating to the desir'd Co<sup>m</sup>ission for Billy Fx was principally for You to acquaint the Governor if any Vacancys, without the Knowledge of which his Honor could not make out a Co<sup>m</sup>ission, and being told there were Several Vacancys I did write to the Governor for a Co<sup>m</sup>ission. As they are all filld up Billy must wait. In the mean Time He is learning the Manual Exercise and other Necessary Accomplishments that He may appear with a good Face when he is receiv'd into y<sup>r</sup> Regiment. If M<sup>r</sup> Milner whom You mentiond, should quit the Field, Please to inform the Governor and know his Pleasure concerning Billy's Expectations — As L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun may at this Time be engagd in Action Somewhere, So that Billy could not if attempted, easily follow his Lordship, I have wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Co<sup>m</sup>issary Pitcher, desiring him to let his Lordship & Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercromby know, Billy has Letters of Recommendation but as its imagind there may be many Cadets unprovided for, Billy is aiming at making Some Be-

ginning in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment and continue till He has the Honour of knowing his L<sup>'s</sup> Pleasure.

If You had not been at Fort Loudoun when M<sup>r</sup> Atkyn's imprudent Orders to imprison the Cherokees were given And their forcible Delivery out of Goal, no doubt but the Indians when inflam'd would have made M<sup>r</sup> Atkyns their first Sacrifice and then judging their s<sup>d</sup> Fact beyond Repair might go on and slaughter All they could overcome. I hope your Messenger has got timely to prevent the Nation at their Homes beginning Hostilitys, as it would take some Time to collect their Warriors and form Resolutions after the Arrival of the first Intelligence. Y<sup>r</sup> Brother w<sup>th</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> G. Lee are here expecting to have met You, but now imagine you don't think proper to leave Fort Loudoun till You know the Disposition of the absent Cherokees etc. If you dont come soon, Please to favor me w<sup>th</sup> the Number of private Men in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment and where garrisond, for my own Notice — All here and at Belvoir offer their best wishes And I remain

Y<sup>r</sup> very affect & obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

W: FAIRFAX

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FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQ.

NEW YORK 8<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> 1757

D<sup>R</sup> SIR/

The Inclosed Letters came to my hands Yesterday by a Vessel from Halifax, they will I suppose give you all y<sup>e</sup> News from that Quarter. Except y<sup>e</sup> arrival of y<sup>e</sup> Highlanders w<sup>h</sup> has been since they

were wrote, all well, and in good Order Lord Loudoun had not Left Halifax a fortnight ago

We are now under the greatest apprehensions for fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry having Certain Acco<sup>ts</sup> that it is Be-seiged by a Large Body of french & Indians M<sup>r</sup> MontCalm himself at y<sup>e</sup> head of them, a fryday Last the Express came away from fort Edward & they were then Very hotly Engaged — Gov<sup>r</sup> our Lieut<sup>t</sup> Govenor went up Last week to forward y<sup>e</sup> Militia, Gen<sup>l</sup> Johnson was gone up with two thousand Militia & 100 Indians, & y<sup>e</sup> Militia was going up from the adjacent Counties, Col Young Command at W<sup>m</sup> Henry he had Just got into that place with a Reinforcement of 1000 men. We hope the Best —

I am D<sup>r</sup> Sir Y<sup>r</sup> HI Serv<sup>t</sup>

BEV. ROBINSON

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FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

DEAR SIR

you shall hear from me at Large Next Post this being just going off I can only inclose you the Papers & Pray tell my Brother I will Write him under Cover to you next week, I arrived here a few days agoe M<sup>rs</sup> Robinson & her Dear little Family are well Miss Polly has had a pain in her Face but is on the mend<sup>g</sup> hand. I pray Heaven to Protect you and Assure that I am my Dear Sir

Your Obed Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOS CHEW

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<sup>1</sup> This is written on the same sheet as the letter from Beverly Robinson, dated August 8, 1757, to which it forms a postscript.

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Aug<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1757.

SIR,

The Bearer hereof Sam. Akerling has desir'd me Leave to go to see his Brothers near the Monongahelay proposing to give Security with you of his return to be here in the Oct<sup>r</sup> Court; — as I am a Stranger to the Evidence against him on Suspicion of being a Spy, which he sincerely denies & begs to be tried, but that cannot be 'till Oct<sup>r</sup> — wherefore I refer him to You, & if You have any favourable Circumstances in his Affair, I give You Leave to allow him to go to his Brothers, giving Security for his Return by the above Time; and then the Evidence against him must be collected & sent here.

I have several Letters from Augusta, Halifax & Bedford, giving Acc<sup>t</sup> that the Enemy has murder'd some of our poor People & taken 11 Captives, praying my Assistance — I have order'd out some Companies but wrote them You was to send a Detachment from the Reg<sup>mt</sup>, which I hope You have done, if not, I desire You will imēdiately do it agreeable to what was concerted at Philad<sup>e</sup>

I expected M<sup>r</sup> Atkin before this — we are informed here that there has been a great Breach and Uneasiness among the Indians, from some of them being put in Prison, but as I have no Particulars of that Affair, I hope its without Foundation.

By Your long Silence it's to be expected You are in great Peace & Quietness. I remain with Respect

Sir

Your m<sup>o</sup>. h<sup>ble</sup> ServantROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> 1757.

SIR

Your Letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> from M<sup>r</sup>: Boyd<sup>1</sup> — I do not want the Vouchers from the People to whom Money is due for the Ind<sup>s</sup> but surely You may get the particular Sums to qualify me to grant a Warrant on the Treasurer; by such a loose Method of Writing, I know not whether they amount to 100£ or one thousand

You will before this have some more Drafts from Lunenburg, & some other Counties; which I hope will compleat Your eight Companies to one hundred rank & file each; & when they are properly regulated order each Cap<sup>t</sup> to send a Size Roll sign'd by him & the Subalterns — The Cap<sup>ts</sup> were fix'd by me on Your Reco<sup>m</sup>endation as I was a Stranger to the Merit of any of them; & I approve of Your filling up the Commissions according to Seniority. I again order Serj<sup>t</sup> Fent to have an Ensigns Com<sup>o</sup> which I promised his Friends & if poor Cap<sup>t</sup> Spotswood does not appear which I much doubt there will be a Vacancy for M<sup>r</sup>: Chew.

You have sent a Detachment from the Regiment to Augusta, but You do not mention the Number; — or do You mention the Receipt of the Small Arms sent from this; or any Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Misunderstanding with the Indians at Winchester; You must allow this is a loose way of Writing & it's Your Duty

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<sup>1</sup> Alexander Boyd, paymaster.

to be more particular to me — I shall be glad the Affair of the Provisions at Fort Cumb̄id, may be properly adjusted which You may be able to do on return of the Officers sent there.

I approve of Your hanging the two Deserters, & the other poor Fellows I leave their Punishment to You, either by casting Lots one of them to suffer, or if sincere Penitents & You think they will be good Soldiers, You may pardon them, giving them a severe Rebuke at the Head of the Regiment, which I leave to You —

M<sup>r</sup>: Boyd has my Warrant for 5000 $\text{£}$  which will pay the Men till the last of this Month, & what may remain may be applied to contingent Charges — I hope Lewis will keep a proper Command in Augusta to repel the Invasions of the Enemy; I am glad they are gone from the S<sup>o</sup> Branch.

I desire You will give the Pay M<sup>r</sup>: a small Escort to Augusta Court House, where Maj<sup>r</sup>: Lewis must provide an Acc<sup>t</sup>: of the Pay, due to the Men in that C<sup>o</sup>ty to be paid him; — and those on the S<sup>o</sup> Branch may be paid at Fort Loudoun, giving the Capt<sup>s</sup>: notice to send a small Detachment to receive their Money.

As for recruiting to compleat other two Companies, I really think there is no Probability of Success, from the dastardly Behavior of the People in general, & will only be expending a great deal of the Country's Money without doing any Service — give me Your Opinion thereon.

I remain with Respect

Sir

Your most <sup>h</sup>ble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup>: DINWIDDIE.

FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.

NEW YORK Aug<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 1757D<sup>R</sup> SIR

This just serves to inform you that since my last this Country has been in Continued Allarm and hurry you will see by the inclosed that the French have made themselves masters of Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry the Acc<sup>t</sup> I send you has the greatest Appearance of truth, but there is as yet no Certainty what Terms the Fort was surrender'd upon or who of that Garrison are safe<sup>1</sup> I will write you again before I leave New York and as soon as I can Come at the truth, our friend Beverly is gone to Albany, Please to forward the inclosed to my Brother and be Assured that I am with the sincerest Love and Respect

Dear Sir

Your Obed<sup>t</sup> Affectionate

JOS CHEW.

*Inclosure in Letter from Joseph Chew, Esq.*

On Wensday the 3<sup>d</sup> of Aug<sup>st</sup> the Enemy Set down before Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry with an Army, according to sundry Acco<sup>t</sup> from 9 to 12,000, men and train of 35 p<sup>a</sup> of Cannon & six Mortars and the same day open'd the Trenches

The firing Continued with great Vigour & Resolution on both sides untill Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> during which time the beseiged had several Cannon burst and some of their best Mortars and others Render'd useless it is also said their Ammunition was nearly Expended when they Surrendered the Fort on the Following

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<sup>1</sup> Fort William Henry was situated on the southern coast of Lake George, with a view to command that lake and protect the English colonies. The fort was garrisoned by about three thousand regulars. — WYNNE'S *History of the British Empire in America*.

Terms That the Garrison and troops Should march off with all honours of war, with 4 Cannon and all their <sup>arms</sup> Baggage &c and should not be Molested but Escorted to Fort Edward — That they should not serve in America for 18 months That after the French had got Possession and the Garrison had Marched about two Miles the Indians were let Loose amongst them who killed and Cut numbers to Pieces and striped the others naked in which Condition they were Coming into Fort Edward Gen<sup>l</sup> Webb, Lord Howe, S<sup>t</sup> William Johnson & others were at Fort Edward and notwithstanding all the Industry of them, Governor Delaney, M<sup>r</sup> Olliver Delaney & others of great note and merit his whole force last Thursday was scarcely 7,000 including the Raw Militia, but great Numbers were dayly Joyning him and few days will discover where mons<sup>r</sup> Montcalm will next bend his Course or whether General Webb will be able to dislodge him from Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry —

our Fleet was in Halyfax Harbour the ~~28<sup>th</sup> of July~~ 1<sup>st</sup> of august when they will sail the Lord *knows*

NEW YORK August 15<sup>th</sup> 1757

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FROM CAPTAIN GEORGE MERCER.<sup>1</sup>

DEAR COLONEL

I wrote you Viâ Philadelphia a few Days after my Arrival, but as We have certain Advice of that Ves- sel's calling in at Cape Francois, I set down to write

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<sup>1</sup> Son of Colonel John Mercer, of "Marlborough," born June 23, 1733; educated at College of William and Mary; married in England, August 8, 1767, Mary, daughter of Christopher Neville. Captain Mercer was wounded at the defeat of Braddock, where he received praise for his bravery. In 1756, Washington appointed him his aid-de-camp; in 1758, he served in the campaign under Forbes; in 1761, was elected a member of the House of Burgesses; later, was sent to England as agent of the Ohio Company, and returned as collector for the Crown under the Stamp Act; declining to act, however, he returned to England. In 1768, he came again to America as lieutenant-governor of North Carolina. He held this office but a short time, and prior to the Revolution returned again to England, where he died in 1784.

you the same as near as I can guess, only adding the News that We have had in the Interim

No Doubt youl expect a particular and authentic Account of this Place and its Inhabitants — I shall endeavor to satisfy you in both as far as my Knowledge of Them & Capacity will admit — & to begin I never, from Accounts, was so much disappointed in my Expectations of both — The Town in the first Place is little larger than W<sup>ms</sup> Burg no Buildings in it to compare with our Public Ones there, far inferior to Philadelphia N York, Boston or even New Port itself. The Town is on a Point of Land between two Rivers on the Bay there are some very good Houses, & it is from thence it shows to the greatest Advantage — The rest of the Town is indifferently improved, many very bad low clapboard Houses upon their Principal Streets which are in general narrow & confined. The Inhabitants who you remember were esteemed the politest genteelest People on the Continent are egregiously misrepresented — I believe tho they will mend for I find a considerable Alteration since I first came here, but they never will come up to the Character given Them. What adds to make this Place at present disagreeable is that most of the Gent of Note are out at their Indigo Plantations, so that We have nothing left but a Set of trading Ones, who esteem you for Nothing but your Money, & who dont very genteely treat you for that Youl be surprized I have not yet mentioned the fair Ones I wish I could call Them so, I assure you they are very far inferior to the Beauties of our own Country, & as much on the Reserve as in any Place

I ever was, occasioned by the Multiplicity of Scandal which prevails here; for the chief of your Entertainment even in the best Houses & at the first Introduction is upon that agreeable Subject. then you hear the Termagant the Inconstant, the Prude & Coquette the fine Gent & the fine Lady laid off in their most beautiful Colors, with their Observations if they had so behaved (which you are sure to have the Pleasure to hear at the next House you go to) what they should think of Themselves in short two Families here are sufficient to inform you of the Character of every one in the Place. A great Imperfection here too is the bad Shape of the Ladies, many of Them are crooked & have a very bad Air & not those enticing heaving throbbing alluring plump Breasts comon with our Northern Belles — I am afraid I have tired your Patience & doubt not but you are as much ~~surprized~~ disappointed at reading This, as I was of having an Opportunity of writing it to you —

The many Favors my dear Colonel that I have received at your Hands woud make Me blush at begging an Addition to Them, did I not know your Goodness in excusing such Freedom — I believe you are very sensible of the Governors great Inclination to deprive Me of any Thing that he genteely coud, and I am certain that he woud be glad of an Opportunity of putting any One over my Head, but I hope Sr you will be kind enough to see Me Justice done in that Respect. You are the only Friend I have to apply to at this Distance, & in whose Power it is to

assist Me. I rely solely upon your Goodness in Case of a Vacancy, as it is now my Right, thro your Friendship, to see Me preferred in Turn —

We have Advice here and it seems to be well attested that the Austrian Army met with a total Defeat. They had upwards of 7000 taken Prisoners about 9000 killed in the Field ~~took~~ above 200 Pieces of Cannon and all their Field Equipage fell into the Hands of the Prussians, who immediately entered Prague Sword & Hand, where they made Prisoners & killed the greatest Part of the Austrian Army who had taken Refuge there. You will I hope hear it confirmed e'er you see this. No one doubts it here —

I take the Liberty to mention the Inconvenience which I see must necessarily arise if the Troops are not properly clothed against next Year. They make a very good Appearance here, and are much esteemed for their orderly Behavior. They are extremely well satisfied at their present Situation, besides their usual Allowance in Virg<sup>a</sup> of 1<sup>lb</sup> of Meat & Bread  $\text{p}^{\text{d}}$  Day, they get  $\frac{1}{2}$  p<sup>t</sup> of Rum 1 p<sup>t</sup> of Rice & p<sup>t</sup> Pease Pepper Salt & Vinegar besides Greens of some Kind every Day.

We have met with a Set of very genteel pretty Officers here of the Royals Harmony & Unanimity prevail greatly among Us — and their is no Demand made for Necessaries for their own Troops in which ours are not joined. We do Duty of all Kinds with Them, & our Men are exercised in Battalion w<sup>th</sup> theirs.

As I know the Major Tulliken<sup>1</sup> is an Acquaintance of yours I need not say any Thing in his Praise, as every one who knows him, must immediately discover the polite well bred Gent, as well as the good & diligent Officer in Him — He is much esteemed here by Civil & Military — Col<sup>o</sup> Bouquet I shou'd have done Injustice to, to have omitted particularly in my Letter. He is I believe well acquainted with his Duty a good natured sensible Man, very obliging to all under his Comānd, and the only one of the Foreigners I am told <sup>on</sup> ~~to~~ whom his Lordship much depends. In short We are looked upon in quite another Light by all the Officers than We were by Gen<sup>l</sup> Braddock or M<sup>r</sup> Orme and do our Duty <sup>equally</sup> without any Partiality or particular Notice taken of one more than the other. I conceive great Hopes of our living here vastly happy so soon as the chief Families of this Place resume their Posts in Town, their Absence now I assure you makes the Town very unsociable. Nothing but the good Harmony that subsists among ourselves woud make it tolerable.

It is a very odd Method of judging but however its the Plan upon which most of the World goes, and therefore to find ourselves judged for the Errors or Imperfections of others is not very unaccountable — but We have been told here by the Officers that nothing ever gave them such Surprize as our Appearance at entering Hampton for expecting to see a Parcel of eagger disorderly Fellows headed by Officers of their own Stamp (like the rest of the Pro-

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<sup>1</sup> Major John Tulliken.

vincials they had seen) behold they saw Men properly disposed who made a good & soldierlike Appearance and performed in every Particular as well as could be expected from any Troops with Officers whom they found to be Gent. to see a Sash & Gorget with a genteel Uniform, a Sword properly hung, a Hat cocked, Persons capable of holding Conversation where only common Sense was requisite to continue the Discourse, and a White Shirt, with any other than a black Leather Stock, were Matters of great Surprise and Admiration which engaged Them all to ~~determine~~ give Us a polite Invitation to spend the Evening, & after to agree to keep Us Company which they had determined before not to do — agreeable to what they had practised with the other Provincial Troops. We have lost that common Appellation of Provincials, & are known here by the Style & Title of the Detachment of the Virg<sup>a</sup>. Regiment.

They have passed a Vote here for granting a Sum for raising 700 Men subject to the Orders & Disposal of Lord Loudoun, have put them on the same Establishment with our Troops, and have given your old Acquaintance Howarth the Command of Them, as Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Col<sup>o</sup>. & Commandant of the S<sup>o</sup>. Carolina Provincials. I fear they will be a long Time raising. I dare venture to engage not before the Act expires which is only for 12 months two of which are now lapsed, & not one Man recruited, or a Commission given out — strange Delay —

I cant tell what to expect on this Quarter this Summer whether Peace, or War — One Day they are secure, the next alarmed by hearing of a large Em-

barkation of Troops for Cape Francois — We have had an Account of 2 or 3 several Squadrons with Troops on Board touching there, since We have been at this Place. Tis known some of Them have gone to the Mississippi — they are still under Apprehensions but I think without a Cause.

Our latest News is of so long a Date that I imagine it could be none to you before this will come to Hand. The Defeat of the Austrians is confirmed.

In Case of Col<sup>o</sup>: Stephens Removal from this Command wch I believe he is tired of, I hope it will be agreeable to you that I should succeed him. Youl scarce believe that the Colonel never appears here but in full dressed laced Suits — so great a change has Carolina produced.

I hope dear Colonel youl favor Me with a Letter now & then. I assure you nothing would give Me greater Pleasure than to hear frequently from you. None of our Detachment has ever yet received a Line or heard from Virginia —

If I remember well, I informed you before that M<sup>r</sup>: Stretch had promised to be particularly careful of, & forward any Letters to or from Me. Philadelphia too would be a ready Conveyance for Letters from your Quarter

Virginia has gained great Credit by sending Troops here, tis more than any of the other Colonies or Provinces have done; & I assure you our Men behave extremely well.

Three or four of our Serjeants will get Commissions in the Charles Town Regiment.

I fear I have tired your Patience by this, therefore

beg Leave to conclude & assure you that with great  
Esteem and Respect I subscribe myself

D: Colonel

Your most obliged Friend

obedient humble Servant

G. MERCER

CHARLES TOWN }  
August 17<sup>th</sup> 1757 }

FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

CHARLESTOWN, S. CAROLINA Aug<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>  
1757

SIR,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the two  
Companies of your Regiment under my Command  
are well — They are well disciplined and have this  
advantage of all other troops in America that they  
know the parade as well as Prussians, and the fight-  
ing in a Close Country as well as Tartars.

We are all peace & Quietness on this Quarter,  
But notwithstanding Some of your Officers have not  
escaped being wounded — That mighty Conqueror  
Love has made havock in the Corps — I only Ap-  
peal to Capt: Mercers Letter; cant you plainly dis-  
cover it? —

I am but little acquainted with the Ladies, but if  
you will allow me to be a Judge, The Fair in this  
place must give way in Beauty, easy Behaviour, &  
other female Accomplishments to the Daughters of  
the more northern Climes — Cap: Mercer has wrote  
you a mere pamphlet, & Maj: Tulleken informs me

that he writes you also, I shall therefore only declare that I am as formerly, with great Respect,

Sir,

Your most Obt<sup>t</sup> hum<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>vt</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN

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FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM PEACHEY.<sup>1</sup>

RICHM<sup>d</sup> COUNTY 22<sup>d</sup> Aug<sup>th</sup> 1757

D<sup>r</sup> SIR

Having but an indifferent Hand at Complim<sup>ts</sup> I have hitherto referr'd writing to you & sho'd have still continued to do so, untill I cou'd hear something that might be new or entertaining, had not an Affair happened a little while since, that lays me und<sup>r</sup> the Necessity of it, in Ord<sup>r</sup> to prepare you (if not too late) for the hearing of a p<sup>s</sup> of Malice that none but the Devil or some of his Crew cou'd have invented, & to clear up my Character to you in that particular —

The Matter is this, I being on a Visit the other Day to M<sup>r</sup> Cha<sup>s</sup> Carter of Shirley or Corotomon, was asked in a very serious Manner by y<sup>t</sup> Gent: in the presence of others (desiring me at the same Time to excuse his Curiosity) What was the real Intention of my Express to W<sup>ms</sup>burg last Spring was a Year? The Question put me a little out of Humour, but as that Gent: used a good Deal of Ceremony to bring it about, I told him it was to Allarm the Country w<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> great Danger the Frontiers were in from the

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<sup>1</sup> Captain William Peachey, born in 1729, was the son of Samuel and Winifred (Griffin) Peachey, a grandson of William, and great-grandson of Samuel Peachey, who settled in Virginia in 1659. Captain Peachey (made a Colonel during the war of the Revolution) married Million Glasscock in 1748.

Enemy & I related to him such particulars as I cou'd recollect of my Information at y<sup>t</sup> Time; He held up his Hands & seemed to be surprised; I then tho't it was Time to know his Reason <sup>for</sup> asking me such a Question; To which he said as he was at W<sup>ms</sup>burg w<sup>n</sup> I came on that Express he heard me give y<sup>e</sup> same Acco't as I did to him at his own House and therefore cou'd not but be surprised to hear a very different Tale told & Me given for Authority to it, which determined him, the first Time he saw me, to know the Truth of the Matter. He says that M<sup>r</sup> Christopher Robinson told him he heard Col<sup>o</sup> Richard Corbin say, that I affirmed that my whole Business at that Time was to execute a Scheme of yours to cause the Assembly to levy largely both in Money & Men, and that there was not an Indian in y<sup>t</sup> Neighborhood, that the Frontiers or even Winchester & the adjacent County did not appear to be in any more Danger at y<sup>t</sup> Time than any other; M<sup>r</sup> Robinson also informed M<sup>r</sup> Carter, it was said, y<sup>t</sup> that p<sup>e</sup> of Deceit, or Imposition of y<sup>rs</sup> (as they term it) has lessened the Governours & some of the leading Men's Esteem for you; or at least they make Use of it as a Reason for their Ill Treatment and the worse Opinion (they say) they have than formerly of you: — I hope Col<sup>o</sup> Washington knows me bett<sup>r</sup> than even to suppose I cou'd be guilty of a Thing of this Kind, therefore shall only add that You may depend I shall Use my Endeavour to trace the Matter till I find the Scoundrel that dares make himself the Author of such a scandalous Report — If you think fit to make Use of the above you are at full Liberty so to do. — There

is another fine story the Governour is pleased to report of me, viz. That I generally mustered between 30 or 40 Men & had only 6 or 7. Pray Sir where was y<sup>r</sup> Care or that of y<sup>r</sup> Officers? to overlook so palpable a Breach of a well known Article of War: However I am only waiting to get a person who heard his Hon<sup>r</sup> say so, to make it appear how false & mean that Aspersion is. —

As I shall go to W<sup>ms</sup>burg shortly I hope, if I shou'd find it necessary, you wont take it a miss, that I make Use of y<sup>r</sup> Last to me on the S<sup>o</sup> Branch, for I understand that it is generally supposed in that part of the World, that some leading Man has placed my Character in a very bad Light to the Govern<sup>r</sup> or say they, his Honour wou'd never have reduced him & appointed a younger Cap<sup>t</sup> to be continued in the Regiment —

When I left Winchester I really forgot to draw up a Remonstrance as you directed for the Ballance of my pay, therefore wrote to the Govern<sup>r</sup>, for ans<sup>r</sup> he said he had not the least Objection to it, but I must apply to the pay-Master; I coud see that was only an Evasion, so hope if you can put me in a Way to get it, you will, for I not only think it an Hardship to loose it, but a great piece of Injustice as I was not paid off till the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> of July & consequently cou'd not leave the Service if there is no other method to be taken you'll be pleased to send me a Certificate that I was only paid to the first of June & continued in the Service till the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the Day that I came to Winchester — We have various Acco<sup>ts</sup> of poor Spotswood I shou'd be extreamly glad to hear if you

have had any News of him since I left you. — I wish I cou'd have continued w<sup>th</sup> you, for the idle or rather sedentary Life that I am now obliged to lead & the Salt Water Air has bro't on an ugly Fev<sup>r</sup> which I make no Doubt I shou'd have escaped if I had continued in the Mountains, tho' indeed, otherways I cou'd not have enjoyed much Satisfaction after hearing how my Character as well as most of the Gent. — of the Virg<sup>a</sup> Regim<sup>t</sup> has been traduced & vilified, as I am inform'd by those <sup>too</sup> who ought chearfully to have supported, & stood by, Us — We have no News but w<sup>t</sup> comes by the Norw<sup>d</sup> papers which you generally get before We do, except that some French Privateers have been seen in the Mouth of the Bay & our Station Ship is gone out on the Cruise, so shall conclude w<sup>th</sup> an hearty & sincere Wish that you may meet with more Satisfaction than I believe you have for some Time, and assuring you that I am w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> greatest Respect

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Y<sup>r</sup> mo: obed<sup>t</sup>

Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

WILL<sup>M</sup> PEACHEY.

Pray excuse incorrectness  
for I am at this Time much  
disordered —

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*Deposition of Thomas Hudson.*

BALTIMORE COUNTY ss The Deposition of Tho<sup>s</sup> Hudson, taken before me the subscriber one of his Lordship's Justices of the peace for the County afores<sup>d</sup> in the Province of Maryland ; who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists declares. That he this

Dep<sup>t</sup> was present with M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Gist & John Hall when the said John Hall was going to sign his assent to being Enlisted in his Majesties Service ; That the said John Hall on taking the Pen in his Hand, said I will not sign for any more than Six months, Upon which said M<sup>r</sup> Gist made answer, Thats what I want ; (or thats what I desire) but which of those words this Dep<sup>t</sup> can't exactly remember. That M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Owings a Magistrate for this County was then also present ; and on the said John Hall going to sign as afores<sup>d</sup>— Said unto the afores<sup>d</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Gist, this Boy is too Young ; to which the said Gist made answer he was the highth of their Standard ; and farther Saith not —

Sworn to this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1757 —

before

BUXTON GAY

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FROM MAJOR ANDREW LEWIS.

AUGUSTA COURT HOUSE Sep<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1757

Last Night I arrived here in Order to fall upon some Method to Ingage provitions for the troop stationed in this County — his hon<sup>r</sup> the governor has ordred me to Regulat the Militia of this County, & as there is a General Muster here this Day it is part of my Business.

As soon as Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward arrived at Fort Lyttelton L<sup>t</sup> Bullet Marched & Joined me at Dickensons Fort Some Days Before I left that. Inclosed you have Returns According to my Instructions with Size & Necessary Rolls — my old Company had not thire hats, Neither were they sent from Winchester y<sup>e</sup> men is very uneasy about y<sup>e</sup> want of them as they are in a manner Bareheded — I sent M<sup>r</sup> Allan with some Assistance afture y<sup>e</sup> men which Deserted from me at this place on my March out, they had not y<sup>e</sup>

Fortun to take Either of them. but hering of some others took 2 who Deserted from L<sup>t</sup> Buckner on his march from Fredricksburg. these 2 with one Inlisted which you may see by my Return want thire Cloathes & Inlisting money. as you will have frequent oportunitys of Sending Necessarys which we are in want of as you will see by y<sup>e</sup> Necessary Rolls, by waggons or Carts Coming to this place I hop you will send them. — In Answer to a Letter I sent to his hon<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> governor he writs me to Abandon <sup>Fort Lyttelton</sup> or Continue y<sup>e</sup> troop as I think proper. As that <sup>^</sup>Fort in time may be of Some Service I think it Best to Continue one Officer with 20 men at it. Cap<sup>t</sup> woodward with 50 at Campbells the remainder of y<sup>e</sup> Detachment under Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward which will be Neare 30 at old Cloyds. Cap<sup>t</sup> Dickenson with his Company I have ordred to the mouth of Craggs Crek, by which Means I Believe y<sup>e</sup> people will Return to thire Habitations, before my arrival here with y<sup>e</sup> Troops, there was not a Soule Between y<sup>e</sup> N<sup>h</sup> R<sup>t</sup> & Vauses, but since most of the fork people has Returned — I shall send a small party of my Company to Fort Dinwiddie — I have stationed Cap<sup>t</sup> Preston in y<sup>e</sup> Bull-pasture — there is two Companys of y<sup>e</sup> Militia Now on Duty which I know not how to Dispose of, tho <sup>wrot</sup> I <sup>^</sup>to y<sup>e</sup> governor in a partickular manner about <sup>them</sup> he wrot me he knew of none but Preston & Dickenson, notwithstanding y<sup>e</sup> other was stationed by his & y<sup>e</sup> Counsels Order. there is one place y<sup>t</sup> Vacant which is not garrisoned y<sup>e</sup> Consequences may be bad. that is y<sup>e</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Branch or S<sup>o</sup> fork

Between Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward<sup>s</sup> old Station & Prestons, as  
y<sup>e</sup> governor has not given me a Direct Answer nor  
I Believe wont, I am afraid that place must be De-  
serted —

his hon<sup>r</sup> wrot me Col<sup>o</sup> Reed was appointed to supply  
y<sup>e</sup> troops under my Command with provitions. I  
hant as yet heard from Reed nor Cant larn that he  
has provided one mouth foull. which has Layd me  
under an Obligation to provid I suppose I shall ly  
out of my money Sume years perhaps afture taking  
as many Jurneys to W<sup>ms</sup>burg as will Ocation y<sup>e</sup>  
spending y<sup>e</sup> hole I may Receive it

I am Sir your most Obedeant & Very  
Humble Servant

AND<sup>w</sup> LEWIS

P. S. few Days since a Sarj<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Militia  
was kiled <sup>by y<sup>e</sup></sup> Enemy Near Fort Dinwiddie  
which is all y<sup>e</sup> Damage done in this Country  
Since my arival —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Sept<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1757

SIR

My Friend Col<sup>o</sup> Fairfax earnestly desires his Son  
W<sup>m</sup> Henry may have a Lieut<sup>s</sup> Commission in the  
Regiment; if any Vacancy I desire You may give him  
a Commission accordingly, & as You have Blank  
Comissions fill one up for him if any Vacancy, which  
will be agreeable to

Sir  
Your mo<sup>o</sup>hble Servant  
ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Sept<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1757

SIR

Yours of the 27<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> last Night. — Col<sup>o</sup> Read from Lunenburg says he had sent You up twenty nine Soldiers, probably in two Parties, the last I suppose were not arrived when You wrote me. —

I am sorry so many have deserted since Y<sup>r</sup> last, or do I know what to do unless they will Out-law all those that so desert, & I wish You wou<sup>d</sup> send the Names of those that deserted after receiving the Bounty order'd by the County, & receiv'd their Cloath<sup>s</sup> & Arms.

The Reason I am so earnest in having the Numbers with You, & those sent to Augusta is, to qualify me to agree with Contractors for supplying them with Provisions; as the Contractors will naturally desire to know the Number they are to provide for.

I see the Difficulties You mention in sending a Return of the whole Regiment, yet You will observe the Necessity of having it. As to the Beef at Fort Cumb<sup>rd</sup> I despair of Y<sup>r</sup> making much of it, but do what You can; I hope the other Species not objected to will soon be replac'd at Fort Loudoun.

I am sorry the Enemy have appear'd on the Branch & of their having kill'd five & captivated eight, this I fear will be the Case by surprizing the poor unguarded People, & Nothing further can be expected than our People employ'd in Parties searching for the Enemy.

We must suspend Recruiting for some Time till

a method is found out to reclaim the Deserters, which at present appears to me very difficult, but hope You will be able to compleat the present Companies to 100 each rank & file.

I approve of Your pardoning the poor Prisoners & I hope Your Reproof to them will have its desired Effect, & they become good Soldiers.<sup>1</sup> — I cannot think Col: Stanwix will leave our Frontiers in these perilous Times.

I understood M: Boyd that the Money he carried last up was more than wou'd pay the Forces to the last of August & I suppose there remains in Y: Hands some of the 2000*£* sent for the Drafts, which may be applied for Contingencies.

I accused You of looseness in Writing, viz: tho' You are not concern'd in Indian Affairs, yet when an Insult & Quarrel subsists where You Command it was reasonable to expect You shou'd have given an Acc: thereof, not having heard from M: Atkin till this Minute by M: Rich: Smith.

As formerly I can say Nothing to the Acc<sup>ts</sup> or Demands of the People for the Indians till I know their Am<sup>o</sup> & for What — & it's not to be expected the Cotry is to employ a Person for <sup>to settle</sup> every little Demand. — The Detachm<sup>t</sup> to Augusta, I expected an Acc: of the Officers & the Men in each Comp<sup>a</sup> — Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis writes he arrived there the 4<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> with 140 Men, that he was inform'd Col: Clem: Read was

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<sup>1</sup> Governor Dinwiddie had left to Washington's discretion the punishment and pardoning of deserters; and in this instance Washington resolved on the latter, having found the example of the former of little weight, and since, as he expressed it, "these poor unhappy criminals have undergone no small pain of body and mind, in a dark prison, closely ironed."

to supply them with Provisions ; did not You direct him to apply to M<sup>r</sup>. Read for Provisions ? he writes me to appoint some Person to purchase Provisions ; I hope M<sup>r</sup>. Read has sufficient for three Months, — as before I want the particular Numbers in order to contract for supply of Provisions —

You shou'd have acquainted me of the Arms being at Falmouth, & that You had sent for them, how<sup>r</sup> as they are now with You it's very well.

I have a monstrous long Letter from M<sup>r</sup>. Atkin which I cannot answer particularly, but shall in general. — Col<sup>o</sup>. Fairfax has wrote me earnestly for a Commission for his Son W<sup>m</sup>. Henry to be a Lieutenant, if any Vacancy I shall be glad he may be oblig'd in this, as I have a great Regard for the old Gent<sup>l</sup>. I wrote a short Line to You under his Cover to the above Purpose which he probably will forward to You.

I desire You will send a particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of Provisions remain<sup>g</sup> on Hand, & how long You think they may serve the Men &c. that the new Contractors may know the Time they are to commence their Supplies. I understand from Gov<sup>r</sup>. Sharpe that M<sup>r</sup>. Ross wou'd either supply the Species of Provisions left at Fort Cumb<sup>rd</sup>, in Kind, or pay You in Cash, when adjusted advise me thereof. —

I remain with Respect

Sir

Your mo. hble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup>. DINWIDDIE

Pray write me whether one Rob<sup>t</sup>. Holmes is amongst the Number of Deserters.

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FROM WILLIAM RAMSAY, ESQ.

WILLIAMSBURG Sept: 3<sup>d</sup> 1757

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

Yesterday my proposals were agreed to by the Govern<sup>t</sup>: this Day I set out for Hampton in order to purchase some Salt. I hope to be at home in about 8 days, after a short stay I intend myself the pleasure of waiting on you, when your advice &c will be kindly taken & added to your other favors. the Flour you mention'd shall take. No News this way.

If in any respect I can serve Col<sup>o</sup>: Washington I shall with the greatest pleasure & am with real Esteem his obliged and very —

H Serv<sup>t</sup>  
W<sup>M</sup>: RAMSAY.

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FROM MR. DAVID HALL.<sup>1</sup>

SIR,

I received your Letter by the Post, and am very sorry I misunderstood your Directions, as I should be always glad to have Colonel Washington for a Customer for our Paper. You [We] have now sent you thirty Papers, according to your Orders, for which I have debited you; the Charge for each Paper three Months 2/6 our Money, which makes the whole £3. 15. 0. What the Post will take for carrying them to Lancaster I don't know. As he is a private Post, he makes his own Bargain I suppose,

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<sup>1</sup> Associate editor with Franklin of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, from 1747 to 1766. The partnership being then dissolved, the *Gazette* was published by Hall & Sellers until 1804, when it passed into other hands.

if you should continue to take the Papers longer than three Months, you will let us know in Time, otherwise we shall stop sending them when the Time is up. I am,

Sir,

Yours very respectfully

D. HALL

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 8. 1757.

N. B. Your Letters are forwarded, M<sup>r</sup> William Dunlap<sup>1</sup> manages the Post Office in M<sup>r</sup> Franklins Absence, and will take proper Care of what Letters you may send.

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FROM DOCTOR DAVID ROSS.<sup>2</sup>

SIR

I am favoured with yours of the 6<sup>th</sup> & delayed answering it, in expectation of hearing something from our Officers relating to the Survey of the Beef, but I have not yet received the least Syllable. you very well know the power of Officers in Garrison with regard to Condemning Provision and as I am only paid for the Provision as it's delivered out to the Troops if they should think proper to refuse it I must bear the whole loss, however as my Brother is going to Fort Cumberland I shall know whether Captain Dagworthy has any objections and inform you what they are. You may be assured I shall make none that can be avoided, but if they should

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<sup>1</sup> In the Revolution, printer to the Continental Congress. ...

<sup>2</sup> Commissary to the Maryland regiment.

Continue in the same sentiments with regard to their Condemning the Beef, would it not remove all Cavil, for you to receive from me for what they have used, and as you have troops on the South Branch it may be Conveyed to them, As they will be satisfied of the Goodness of it, on the Report of the Officers you sent to Inspect it, which its Probable ours will not, as it does not appear by the Copy of the return you sent to me that any of them were Consulted in Regard to it, and as its intended they should use it, they will think they are pretty much Interested.

They had no fresh provision when the Complaints were made about the badness of the Beef, they had I believe even wrote to Coll Stanwix about it, and every letter from every Officer at Fort Frederick at that time was fill'd with Complaints about it, I have even some letters in my Possession from the Fort Major M<sup>r</sup> Livingston to the same Purpose, wrote much about the time he was Informing you that they had not acted fairly in regard to the Condemnation of it, But I can write you in a more Satisfactory manner when I hear from them but in the mean time whatever has been <sup>used</sup> shall be paid whenever you please to order it, tho I could wish to have the whole affair settled at once that neither of us may have any further trouble about it.

I am Sir,

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> hum<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

DAVID ROSS

BLADENSBURG Sept<sup>r</sup> 28, 1757.

VOL. II

FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA 17<sup>th</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1757—

DEAR SIR

I am honoured with your very kind letter by M<sup>r</sup> Hamilton,<sup>1</sup> confirming the Obligations I lye under from the many instances of Your Friendship and Regard. — For which I can only offer my grateful Acknowledgements — a poor return for such unmeritted kindness —

Your candid and Just remarks, on the scheme of Settling a Store by M<sup>r</sup> Watson at Winchester, carry their due weight with me, and corroborate the Conclusions I drew from the proposal — Among severall reasons that discouraged our design, that of M<sup>r</sup> Watsons unfitness was one, very matterial — and the infirm State of Health I have been in, this Summer, rendered me unable to undertake the Affair — So that, I judged it more prudent to drop the design — at least for some time — I am now, thank God, upon the recovery & wou'd Gladly attempt some Way of Business conducive to an easie passage thro' life — and, believe shall break off my Connections with M<sup>r</sup> Watson — as My Brother is fit to undergo' some fatigue and willing to join me in any Adventure of probable Advantage —

The Scheme you kindly hint of Suttling — and From which, as you observe, (under proper conduct) Advantage might arrise — is foreclosed — M<sup>r</sup> Ramsay return'd about Four days ago from Williamsburgh having Contracted to Victuall the Forces of

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<sup>1</sup> John Hamilton, quartermaster in the Virginia regiment.

Your Regiment Stationd in Frederick & Hampshire Countys — at what rate, I know not — but in Conjunction with Carlyle and Dalton — and with resolutions to pursue the plan of Suttlers, Retailers, Commissary, and what not, for the Compleat and proper Accomodating Your Regiment in every Requisite whatsoever — This much, I had learn'd, was their intentions, before I had the pleasure of receiving Your Affectionate Address — and was pleased with the Approaching prospects of the Commodious & Satisfactory entertainment so necessary & desirable amongst Your Troops —

You may rely on the Secrecy injoind on this Subject — and shall not add Further till I have the pleasure of seeing you — which I hope will be in a Fortnights time —

Inclosed is M<sup>r</sup> Johnson's rece<sup>t</sup> for the five Years rent of his Plantation £12. 10 — Cur<sup>y</sup> —

M<sup>r</sup> Hamilton hastens to be gone, — & shall only add my sincere wishes for Your Health & happiness — and Am with very much Esteem

Dear Sir

Your Much Obliged and

Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hum<sup>l</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

JN<sup>o</sup> KIRKPATRICK

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FROM COLONEL STANWIX.

CAMP NEAR CARLISLE Sep<sup>r</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1757.

DEAR SIR

I am to own the Favour of your letter by Lieut<sup>t</sup> Campbell. wish he may meet with the Deserters he

is in pursuit of, this is a crime grown to so enormous a height on this Continent it will require some adequate remedie from the Command<sup>r</sup> in Chief and fear it will require so severe a one as to make it necessary to put to death every deserter we take. I have lost near fifty of the best men of the five Comp<sup>s</sup> of the First Battalion, retook twelve and a week ago hang'd four, and am sure it would have been right and for the good of the Service to have hanged the other eight which I pardon'd against my judgment. Lord Loudoun is return'd to N. York with ten Battalions and presume by this time that he is with them gone up to Albany & 'tis said proposes to take post at the ruin'd Fort Will<sup>m</sup> Henry and to rebuild the same if time for it, but this [is] conjectural,<sup>1</sup> 'tis talk that eighteen French Ships of the Line [are] in Lewisbourg and that this and the river St. Laurance &c will guard it that most peoples hopes are over for the present from the North. no body believes the Story of the Duke of Cumberland's defeat, some smal Skirmish only with part of a rear guard of no consequence<sup>2</sup> — one of the ten Battalions return with Lord Loudoun comes here the second of the Royal American's, seven Companys join me, two go's to Reading at Governor Dennys request, half a Company stay's to recruit and Guard our Magazeen at

<sup>1</sup> "My Lord Loudoun has returned to New York, with ten regiments, prevented in his expedition by the arrival of a superior force of twenty-three sail of the line and 15,000 land forces at Louisbourg. His lordship is honest, brave, and wise, and yet there is no character so sacred which envy and malignant obloquy will not attempt, no merit so great which ill-nature will not sacrifice." — Captain Thomas Lloyd to Major James Burd, September 4, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> The rumor that the Duke of Cumberland was slain, and his army in Flanders routed.

Lancaster the Other half to York Town to recruit  
the Strength of the Companys I don't know yet  
but believe they 'r far from Complete, I beg you will  
believe that I am with truth

D<sup>r</sup> Sir Your most  
obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
JOHN STANWIX

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FROM LEWIS STEPHENS, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

September y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 1757 —

HONOURABLE S<sup>r</sup>/

I think it my Duty Indispencibly to acknowledge  
with Greatfullness Your Timeous Sending Imme-  
diate relief in our deep Distress also by Leaving a  
Number of men, for our Protection the which had it  
not been done we Should not had men to protect us,  
and certainly must have moved my Family to Some  
post for their Safety and Further Inform Your Hon-  
our, that by all Probability our Enemy is round us  
as by the Inclosed affadavit will Inform You also  
one of the Sentries Last night heard 3 Indian Hallow-  
ing in Different Parts, and a Gunn was heard Yester-  
day in the Evening by People Going to their habita-  
tions, about 2 miles distant from this place it was So  
near them and Samuel Nowels Plantation, and they

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<sup>1</sup> Son of Peter Stephens, who came to Virginia in 1732. The town of Stephensburg, in Frederick County, was established in September, 1758, on 900 acres belonging to Lewis Stephens. Kercheval states that according to tradition Lord Fairfax was more partial to Stephensburg than to Winchester, and used his influence to have it made the seat of justice, but Wood, by treating one of the justices to a bowl of toddy, secured his vote for Winchester and settled the question. In 1887, Stephensburg and Newtown were incorporated and called Stephen City.

Seeing Cattle run they Immediately returned and Gave in this account, all which Gives me Just reason to Suspect that the 3, Indians Seen Last night were Detached from their body in order to discovr the Country & thereby find where they may Strike, the next Stroke, there are about 46, People Safely Came in from Cacapon <sup>To Fry's Fort women & children</sup> Besides I am of oppinion that the Place of their General <sup>A</sup>Randisvovs, is <sup>in</sup> ~~about~~ the Cove between the heads, of this and Stony Creek Rivers, in the mountains, a Place Commodeous for Such Enemies to resort — I and others are well acquainted with the Place, and Could Pilot men there but have not a Sufficent Number of men to Go in Search of them, for we are weak at this time and know not when we shall be attackd, we Shall always Give Intelidgence of what Occurence, and am with Due regard  
Your

Honours obedient  
Humble Servant  
LEWIS STEPHENS

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COLONEL WILLIAM TALIAFERRO TO CHARLES LEWIS, ESQ.

D<sup>R</sup>. CHARLES

Lieut<sup>n</sup> Charles Smith about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an Hour since unfortunately killed a Man (to whom he was intire Stranger) by a slight Stroke on y<sup>e</sup> Nose without any Malice, his Friends here will enter into Bond as y<sup>e</sup> Magistrates think him intit<sup>d</sup> traditur in Ballium

M: Smith is very desirous of seeing you & desires me to write to you to come immediately here in haste

I am with my Love to Lucy y<sup>r</sup>

B:

W TALIAFERRO

Thursday  $\frac{1}{4}$  after 3 o'Clock

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FROM COLONEL CHARLES LEWIS.

FREDRICKSBURG, 7 b: 21<sup>st</sup> 1757

D<sup>R</sup> COL<sup>O</sup>

Nothing could have given me more Dissatisfaction than the inclosed Letter from our Friend Col<sup>o</sup>: W<sup>m</sup> Taliaferro, I am inform'd M: Smith has been prudent enough to send you a Cobby of the Depositions. He is to Day releas'd honourably by a call'd Court of Inquiry, neither Murder, Man Slaughter, or even Chance Mud. found against him.

I thought it my Duty to do him all the Service in my Power, tho' little was by a reasonable Court wanting—

I hope this Accident (for it cannot be otherwise term'd) will render him<sup>no</sup> less in y<sup>r</sup> favour, with the inclosed & other Authorities given y<sup>r</sup> good Sence will excuse M: Smith & I little Doubt y<sup>r</sup> good Wishes for

Y<sup>r</sup> hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

CH<sup>S</sup>. LEWIS—

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FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT.

SIR

I Rec<sup>d</sup> yours Jan<sup>ry</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> wherein you was pleased to Signifie that I had not proceeded in a Regular Manner in not Laying in a formal Complaint if I was not well used by my Cap<sup>t</sup>. I am not unsensible Sir, of the Difficulty an Enferiour Officer Encounters, when he Says, in a Comp<sup>t</sup> of that Nature against one of his Superiours in Clearly proving Alligations, especially when such Superiour by our Doing Duty so far from y<sup>e</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. Chiefly Comānds, for this Reason did not Care to be Concernd in any such affair if in my power to avoid —

Since Cap<sup>t</sup> Hog has bin pleased to Signifie in his Letters to you that I am in Fault, and that his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Govenor thought so, Beg Leave to Lay my Reasons before you for Writing my former Letters

Cap<sup>t</sup> Hog at his Departure from fort Dinwiddie Left Injunctions with me to purchase Beef to be Rec<sup>d</sup> in Fall Season, also Injoyn'd me to send him returns from Time, to Time of the Quant<sup>y</sup>. I agreed for, that he might give further Instructions when I had a Sufficiency & y<sup>e</sup> Quantity to Receive, pursuant to which I agreed, for a parcel of Beeves, Likew<sup>se</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Hog & M<sup>r</sup> Fleming for Quantity's, tho Different persons who had Ingaged their Beeves to us, about the first of Novemb<sup>r</sup> Drove them in, at which Time I had no Orders how to proceed (further than Above Mentioned) Nor any Acc<sup>t</sup> of those purchased Except my own Engagm<sup>ts</sup> more than by a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Fleming Acq<sup>ts</sup> me he had by his Cap<sup>t</sup>s Orders

bought for use of that Fort, Upon which I sent a Messeng<sup>r</sup> for full Instructions who returned in about Sixteen days without any such (& Informed me he had Leave from his Cap<sup>t</sup> to go by Stanton) at this Suspence I was Kept Till December (tho sent Three Times) And Noumbers of Beeves Tendered me the Owners whereof threatened the suing for Damages if I did not Receive them, from this, the Cold Reception I met with from Cap<sup>t</sup> Hog in his Behaviour on Return <sup>to Fort</sup> & also his Informing Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis I had not Acted well in Regard to Victualling the Garr<sup>n</sup> I coud not but Immagine it was more than probable (on some Dislike Taken at me) he Intended to make all Opertunity's for my Being Guilty of some Misconduct, then get Clear of me in a Maner that might Reflect Dishonour on me.

Tho as I have Rec<sup>d</sup> all the Civilities Due from a Gent<sup>n</sup> of Cap<sup>t</sup> Hogs Rank to one of mine (Since the Rec<sup>d</sup> of your Letter my own Inclosed) should not have Troubled you with this, & do it in my own Vindication. Tho shall on All Occasions (while I Receive the Like Usage) discharge my Duty in his Company, Till you will be pleased to Favour the Gent<sup>n</sup> with a Sub<sup>n</sup> in my Room of a More polite Taste, & Liberal Education, in which I shall Think myself under as Great Obligations, to you as what Cap<sup>t</sup> Hog can be, I am Sir, your Most

Obed<sup>t</sup>

Humb<sup>t</sup>

Serv<sup>t</sup>

THO<sup>S</sup> BULLITT

VASS — March y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1757<sup>1</sup> —

<sup>1</sup> This letter, although dated "March," is placed here on account of the following indorsement by Washington — "From Cap<sup>t</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Bullitt 24<sup>th</sup> Sep 1757."

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Sept<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Y<sup>rs</sup> of the 17<sup>th</sup> <sup>of</sup> Jenkins I rec<sup>d</sup> I have wrote Col<sup>o</sup> Read about the Lunenburg Drafts. I am sorry to see the List of so many Deserters, & am fully of Opinion that those that rec<sup>d</sup> the Bounty, Cloaths & Arms ought to be outlaw'd & by the Desertion of the Person that was Condemn'd & afterwards pardon'd appears so villainous, that I cannot prescribe any Rule to keep them together, but great Severity, & to employ them in the most laborious Work with a Guard over them.

The Reason I wanted so earnestly the Return of our Men, was chiefly to know the Number of Men with You to enable me to contract for their Provisions; as there must be one at Winchester & another in Augusta, let me know the Number to be supplied with Provisions immediately from Winchester—I did not expect, but wish'd Y<sup>r</sup> Compa<sup>s</sup> wou'd be Completed to 100 Men each.— At the Court I shall consult with the Council in regard to C<sup>t</sup> Gist, & the Paym<sup>t</sup> of Dem<sup>ds</sup> for the Ind<sup>s</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford gave me an Acc<sup>t</sup> on that Head & was paid it.— I do not want to load You with any troublesome Affairs, what I write was the Creditors to give in the Am<sup>o</sup> of their Acc<sup>ts</sup> to be sent to the Committee. I sent up some Drums lately, I believe there are a few more left that may be sent when Opp<sup>ty</sup> offers, for the Ind<sup>s</sup>— I am sorry [mutilated] the repeated bad news from the Branch, & I have a [mutilated] ion from them signed

by a great Number of People, & [mutilated] not know how to assist them, further than in the foll [mutilated] Man<sup>r</sup> — the Assembly voted 300 Rangers; 200 I order'd to [mutilated] for the Front<sup>r</sup> of Augusta — 100 more I shall be gl [mutilated] can be rais'd, & properly Officer'd for Y<sup>r</sup> frontiers, [mutilated] desire may be done; & if Cap<sup>t</sup> Hogg is up Y<sup>r</sup> way I [mutilated] glad to give him the Comd of them, if You think he Co [mutilated] them, if not, get a proper Person, & keep them in in Part [mutilated] range the Woods. As to M<sup>r</sup> Kennedy's Return of th [mutilated] left at F<sup>t</sup> Cumbld I desire You may settle that Affa [mutilated] M<sup>r</sup> R [mutilated] ner You can; as the fish [mutilated] left there I think You cannot charge them with it, a [mutilated] a Trifle. — The Money You rec<sup>d</sup> from the Pay M<sup>r</sup> & 68..13. [mutilated] paid to You by Col<sup>o</sup> G. W. Fairfax carry to the Credit of the Cotry in Y<sup>r</sup> Acc<sup>t</sup> of Incidents &c.

As I am affraid we shall never see C<sup>t</sup> Spotswood again, You may app<sup>t</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> John M<sup>o</sup>Neill to his Comp<sup>a</sup> with Proviso, if he returns he may be replaced tho' I can see no Probability of it — & enclos'd You have a Com<sup>o</sup> for W<sup>m</sup> Henry Fairfax to be a Lieu<sup>t</sup> in the Regmt, to please You I have order'd it to be fill'd up here, but I can see no Difference, if You had done it by my Order.<sup>1</sup>

I am surpriz'd at C<sup>o</sup> Stanwix's Silence, I wrote him some Time since but have had no Answer. I

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<sup>1</sup> Washington had asked that the lieutenant's commission the governor had desired to be given to William Henry Fairfax might be sent from Williamsburg, as he apprehended an accusation of partiality in the preference shown to a known friend over ensigns already serving.

spoke to M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford to send a particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Provis<sup>s</sup> on hand & I desire You to consult with him how long it may be sufficient for maintain<sup>g</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> Men.

Y<sup>r</sup> other Letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> I perus'd; I w<sup>d</sup> gladly hope there is no Truth in it. I never heard of it before, or did I ever believe You would have sent down any Alarms without proper Foundation; however I shall shew it to Col<sup>o</sup> Corbin when he comes to Town, but I wou'd advise You not to give Notice to every idle Story You hear for if I was to regard Reports of different kinds, I shou'd be constantly perplex'd.<sup>1</sup>

My Conduct to You from the Beginning was always friendly, but You know I had great Reason to suspect you of Ingratitude, which I am convinc'd Your own Conscience & Reflection must allow, I had Reason to be an [mutilated] but this I endeavor to forget; but I cannot [mutilated] M<sup>r</sup> Corbin guilty of what is reported. How<sup>r</sup> as I [mutilated] M<sup>r</sup>s Leave to go Home, I propose leaving [mutilated] Nov<sup>r</sup> & I wish my Successor may shew You as [mutilated] Friendship as I have done — I wish You Health & Happiness & I am

Sir  
Your most h<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
[Signature entirely mutilated]

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<sup>1</sup> The letter of the 17th of September had been written in consequence of one received from Captain Peachey.

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Sept: 24<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

After closing my Letter to You of this Date I rec<sup>d</sup> Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> by Brinker giving Acc<sup>t</sup> of the miserable Distress our Frontier Inhabitants are in, which gives me the greatest Concern & Uneasiness — Really it is not in my Power to do more for defence against the Incursions of our barbarous Enemies, than to recommend Your speedy executing my Orders to You, for raising a Company of Rangers to consist of 100 Men &c. to effect which I pray You to exert yourself.

I agree to Lieut<sup>t</sup> Fell's Resignation, & Your appoint<sup>s</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Chew — You will observe what I write about C<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup>Neill in my former — I remain —

Sir —

Your humble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

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FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

SIR, — Yesterday afternoon an unexpected occurrence brought in part a very extraordinary Scheme of Villainy to Light — The Girl kept by the Quartermas<sup>t</sup> had some difference with Bonnet a Soldier that waited on Hamilton, Bonnet reported that Hamilton in Comp<sup>y</sup> with Jones (late Serj<sup>ts</sup>) went off w<sup>t</sup> an intention not to return; upon which I order'd a Court of enquiry & Inclose you a Copy of its Proceedings from which & various hints I receiv'd in different

Channels concluded it possible to make further Discoveries by getting Hamilton's House and those of his intimates Searched, the preparative steps thereto I conducted w<sup>t</sup> the utmost secrecy & after a number of Warrants were Sign'd by Justice Speake the only Constable in Town (Tho<sup>s</sup> Wood) refus'd to act nor was one in Town would serve his Country on that office till M<sup>r</sup> Woodrow very generously accepted & with indefatigable assiduity executed it <sup>he</sup> accompanied by several officers spent the whole night in searching many of the Houses in Town & some in its Neighbourhood, and several things belonging to the Regiment were found; those in whose possession the things were found, was this day brought before the Justices Swearingen, Linsey & Speake who Bound them over to the next Court as they were at a loss how to act for want of the Laws relative thereto In-clos'd is a Copy of their proceedings — Lieu<sup>t</sup> Buckner and the Adjutant went off last night to King's Ferry where it's said some things are conceal'd but are not yet return'd —

As there's no Quarter Mas<sup>t</sup> and the Stores in the greatest Confusion I judg'd it expedient to postpone their removal till your further Orders —

Twenty Cherokee Warriours and a Squaw arriv'd here this Evening I heard of their coming last Sunday and desir'd M<sup>r</sup> Gist to acquaint his Father by Express of it which he says he did, but no acco<sup>ts</sup> from y<sup>e</sup> Father The few Indians that were here before went out to meet the 20 just arriv'd, they had some Conversation together, none of them would come into Town but Encamp'd on a Rising near it.

Burras says that they told him Capt<sup>n</sup> Gist stays away designedly and thinks the Cherokees not good.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Campbell brought back Walker — he saw another of our Deserters amongst the R. Americans in Lancaster but the Commanding Officer there refus'd to deliver him up — I am

With the highest Esteem & Respect

Dear Sir

Your most assured &

Very obedient hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

ROBERT STEWART

FORT LOUDOUN }  
Sep- 27<sup>th</sup> 1757 }

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FROM GOVERNOR DENNY.<sup>1</sup>

PHILADELPHIA Oct 9<sup>th</sup> 1757.

SIR.

Inclosed is a copy of Sir William Johnson's letter delivered to me by the person, who conducted the Cherokees to this city, by which you will perceive that they are upon an important errand, & should not be delayed one moment. I desire you will be so good as to mention the day & hour they arrive with you. This province cheerfully bears the expenses of their journey to Winchester. I make no doubt of their receiving from you as kind treatment, as they have met with here, & that they will be enabled to perform the rest of their journey with satisfaction, safety, & dispatch.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>M</sup> DENNY.

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<sup>1</sup> Indorsed by Washington — "from Gov<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Denny, Inclosing a letter from Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson, also an answer to Gov<sup>r</sup> Denny, with instructions to Ensign Ray."

FROM SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON<sup>1</sup> TO GOVERNOR DENNY.ALBANY 25<sup>th</sup> September 1757—

(Copy.)

SIR/

Four Deputies from the Cherokee Indians who were sent by their Chief on a visit of Friendship to the Six Nations, with whom they have had a meeting at my House and by whom they are charged with a Message and invitation in conjunction with me to their Nation and others to the Southward in our Alliance, to hold a Congress at my House in order to renew and strengthen their mutual alliance and friendship — These Deputies are now setting off from hence for their own Country accompanied by some Indians of the Six Nations. They will pass thro' your Province and City, and as their speedy delivering the Message they are charged with may be a point of considerable Moment to his Majesty's Interest and Service. I beg leave to recommend it to you to do what lays in your power to forward their Journey, to prevent them and the Indians who accompany them from being delayed by any imprudent quantity of Liquor. as this may upset the Advantages hoped for from their Journey.

I am Sir, with the Greatest esteem,

Your most humble

Servant

W<sup>M</sup> JOHNSON —

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<sup>1</sup> Superintendent of the Six Nations and Indian Affairs in the North: born in Meath County, Ireland, in 1715; died near Johnstown, New York, July 11, 1774.

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FROM CAPTAIN THOMAS BULLITT AND OTHERS.

SIR

As we are well assured You take pleasure in distinguishing Merit where ever it is found, We beg leave to recommend to Your notice a Person not altogether unworthy of it If we may Judge from the diligence & Fidelity he has shewn in a low Station we may still expect he will support his Character in a higher where he will meet with frequenter Opportunities to exert himself & do Justice to Our Recommendation.

That we may not impose on Your Judgement through Partiality we shall endeavour Justly to draw his Character & Pretensions to preferment.

His Education, seems to have been a Good Country Education he writes a Good hand & is Acquainted with figures. his Courage We believe is indisputable, his Conduct as farr as We can Judge from many Months Observation is faultless. he was made a Serg<sup>t</sup> when forces were first levied in this Collony. in which Station he has serv'd with Vigilence & Obedience ever Since. By Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis<sup>s</sup> Order he has acted as Commissary for near a twelve Month, as he understands there are some Vacancies at present, And as it is not without president [precedent] he hopes You will remember him, which we beg leave to enforce, as he had some expectancy before.

From this description we hope You imagine the

VOL. II

Person we would recommend to Your Favour is  
John M<sup>c</sup>Cully.

FORT YOUNG.  
Octob: 10<sup>th</sup> 1757

THO<sup>S</sup> BULLITT  
JOHN ED<sup>S</sup> LOMAX  
W<sup>M</sup> FLEMING  
W<sup>M</sup> CRAWFORD  
GEO: SPEAKE

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FROM THOMAS GAGE, ESQ.

ALBANY Oct: 15<sup>th</sup> 1757.

DEAR SIR,

Your Favor was transmitted to me by M<sup>r</sup> Beverly Robinson, by which I received great Pleasure, as I may judge by it, that you are perfectly well; A Circumstance that gives me no Small Satisfaction, having had no Acc<sup>t</sup> of you for a considerable Time, particularly as I think your Welfare will contribute to that of your Country. I am extreamly glad to find your poor Inhabitants enjoy that calm under your Protection, which alone can make life desirable, & hope soon to hear that you are not only enabled to protect your own Frontiers, but carry the War into the Enemy's Country; which I look upon as the Surest Means to put An End to it.

The Same Fatality that has, since my Memory, attended all our Expeditions, attended that of this Summer to the Northward, which you will have been long ago acquainted with. A very considerable regular Force is now in these Parts, but what They will be employed in, is more by far, than I can inform you.

You may be assured that your Recommendation of any Person, will be an inducement to me to do him every Service in my Power. M<sup>r</sup> Hall, Whom you recommended in your last, purchased an Ensigny in our Reg<sup>t</sup> at Halifax, & I think we are lucky in getting a Gentleman of his Understanding & good Behaviour amongst Us. His Conduct being not only approved by me but every Officer in the Reg<sup>t</sup>

Nothing Material has happened since my Arrival here, I wish something may happen to our Advantage. I shall always be glad to hear of your health, Happyness & Success, I am

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Your Most Obedient  
a most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

THO<sup>s</sup> GAGE

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FROM JAMES CUNINGHAM, ESQ.

NEW YORK 16<sup>th</sup> Oct: 1757

DEAR SIR

I had the pleasure to receive a letter from you by M<sup>r</sup> Fairfax, to whom I shall shew every civility in my power. M<sup>r</sup> Hall continues extremely deserving of any favour that may have been shewen him. I have it only in my power to assist M<sup>r</sup> Fairfax with my Advice, which is to Continue with the Army & pursue the necessary <sup>Steps</sup> towards obtaining a Commission soon, which is that of serving as Voluntier in Gen<sup>l</sup> Abercrombys Reg<sup>t</sup> who patronises every Young man

that is deserving, & if I can Judge well of M<sup>r</sup> Fairfax, he will soon obtain his favour. I have laboured under an Indisposition several Weeks, and my disuse to writing makes it awkward to me, as you will see by this Scrawl which is my first Attempt, And Which I wish you may receive as I am indebted to you a former letter.

Continue Sir to Inform me of Any Gentleman that you wish to serve that may be determined to follow an Army life & they shall have Always my best Advice & when in my power my Assistance shall not be wanting As I shall be glad to Shew that I esteem Col<sup>o</sup> Washington & that I am his very faithful & Ob<sup>t</sup> Servant

J<sup>A</sup><sup>S</sup> CUNINGHAM

P. S. Your Countryman M<sup>r</sup> Byrd Still does us the honor to remain Amongst us. & makes us all very happy in his Company. I mention him to You because he seems to have that good opinion of you that you deserve

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FROM GEORGE WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

NEW YORK Oct<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1757--

DEAR SIR

After a very Pleasant journey we arrived here the 12<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>t</sup>, and had the good fortune to find the Parties here, since which I have spent my time very agreeably with those Gent<sup>l</sup> you where [were] so kind to introduce me to by Letter, and found those very serviceable at Philadelphia.

A Packett from Falmouth arrived Yesterday with certain Acc<sup>ts</sup> that the Duke of Cumberland was forced to a Battle with the French Army, which lasted three days. The second he gained great advantage, and would have carried the day had not Marshal Richlieu joined them with 20 ~~m~~<sup>1</sup> fresh Men. which turned the Scale, and obliged the Duke to Retreat to Hemlin, which he did in great Order, and with such Conduct that even the Enemy applauds him. They are Entered into Hanover and appointed a Governor for that Electrate, and its wisperd from the Fort where his L<sup>d</sup>ship resides, That the French King has sent to our Court, threatening that if Hawkes Fleet put to Sea. they will destroy Hanover with Fire and Sword, and the Cap<sup>t</sup> of the Packet assures us that his Fleet was at Spithead the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> — which I fear will have a bad tendency, and perplex our good old King.

Since writing a Gent<sup>l</sup> has sent me a Paper confirming the Action mentioned with other News, which you'll have in the next Philadelphia Paper, to which I must refer being just called upon to prepair to Embark with about fourteen Passingers severall of which are Officers —

Col<sup>o</sup> Provoe<sup>2</sup> has Resigned, L<sup>d</sup> Charles Hay still under an Arrest at Halifax, and much blaimed. S<sup>r</sup> John S<sup>r</sup> Clair just upon his last legs. and tomorrow his L<sup>d</sup>ship Embarks for Albany where it seems Gen<sup>l</sup> Webb has demanded a Court of Inquire, after which its thought his L<sup>d</sup>ship will soon Return to this Place,

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<sup>1</sup> Thousand.

<sup>2</sup> James Prevost, appointed colonel commandant in 1756.

having ordered several Regiments into Winter Quarters. Therefore you must not look for, or expect any thing from this Quarter. And we hear nothing of our Fleet of Louisburg. So that I fear the Campaign will end as the last. I am in great haste

Dear Sir

Your affect: and very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

G. W. FAIRFAX

I understand neither Col<sup>o</sup> Young or Monroe where [were] in Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry during the Seige, and that the command of it devolved on a Militia Officer who had not so much as an Engineer, and that the Signal to surrender was made from the intrenchments, and that the Fort Commanded their ground.

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE,

WILLIAMSBURG Oct: 19<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> Y<sup>rs</sup> of the 3<sup>d</sup> by Jenkins — As Cap<sup>t</sup> [Hog] is to be here soon I shall talk with him about the ranging Comp<sup>s</sup> I fear he will not be able to raise the Men; if they shou<sup>d</sup> be rais<sup>d</sup> they are to have 1/— <sup>Ⓕ</sup> Day, no recruit<sup>s</sup> Money or Cloaths, & to be rais<sup>d</sup> pro tempore, as they are rais<sup>d</sup> in Augusta; write me if You think it absolutely necessary to have such a Company, if rais<sup>d</sup> they must be victuel<sup>d</sup> by the Contractors; — I have a good Opinion of M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford if he wou<sup>d</sup> accept to be Second in Command of that Comp<sup>a</sup> if rais<sup>d</sup>.

I am sorry the Enemy continue their horrid De

vastations, & I wish the Parties You send out cou'd come up with them to give them a Brush; I am surpriz'd the People shou'd move off, surely the Forces with You, those of Myrd, & the Regulars under C<sup>o</sup> Stanwix's immediate Direction, I think shou'd be sufficient to protect the Frontiers of both Colonies; tho' I am convinc'd the secret Method the Enemy comes to attack us is of great Disadvantage, & very difficult to ferret them out of their lurking Places — I always have been of Opinion that unless an offensive Scheme is undertaken, we shall always be expos'd to their villanous Encroachmts. I approve of Your appoint<sup>s</sup> C<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neill & M<sup>r</sup> Chew.

It was wrong in M<sup>r</sup> Atkin to take C<sup>t</sup> Gist & the Indian Interpreter from Winchester; that Gent<sup>l</sup> has render'd a monstrous Acc<sup>t</sup> of Expenses, w<sup>ch</sup> is laid before the Council to examine — C<sup>t</sup> Gist will be confirm'd in his Appointm<sup>t</sup> & he must take Care to see the Goods for the Indians properly dispos'd of, as M<sup>r</sup> Atkin did — It is absolutely necessary to keep well with them & keep them in good Temper, I shall endeavor to send some more Goods for that Purpose — The French no Doubt are endeavor<sup>s</sup> to get the Cherokees to their Interest, but I believe they want Goods to supply them — M<sup>r</sup> Atkin writes to C<sup>t</sup> Gist to take Care of the Cherokees now at the Branch; — & I was in hopes M<sup>r</sup> Atkin wou'd have put the Ind<sup>l</sup> Affairs in a good Posture, which he affirms he has.

I am surpriz'd Hamilton the Quarter Master shou'd have continued so long in his villanies without Detection — The Magistrates have behav'd most unworthily the Affair I laid before the Atto<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> who

now writes on that Subject — I have no Objection to M<sup>r</sup> Kenedy's succeeding to be Q<sup>r</sup> Master, if You think him a deserving & honest Man in that Case You may appoint him.

The Dunker is to be examin'd before the Council.

I shall take notice what You write of him, & then shall write You what is tho<sup>t</sup> necessary to be done.

As to the Officers receiving more or less Provis<sup>o</sup>s according to their Rank, the Officers of the Regulars when in Britain receive no Provisions; & the Officers of the Regiment are to receive no more than the private Men — a Cap<sup>t</sup> of a King's Ship receives no more allowance than his Cabbin Boy, & surely our Officers having more Pay than any Provincials in America, cannot think of making a Perquisite from the Provisions, or will I allow it; — as for Y<sup>r</sup> Self You are not to have any Provisions, as You are allow'd 200 £ <sup>Ⓕ</sup> Ann. for Y<sup>r</sup> Table.

I cannot agree to allow You Leave to come down here at this Time, You have been frequently indulg'd with Leave of Absence — You know the Fort is to be finish'd, & I fear when You are away little will be done, & surely the Com<sup>dg</sup> Officer shou'd not be absent when daily alarm'd with the Enemy's Intentions to invade our Frontiers, & I think You are in the wrong to ask it — You have no Acc<sup>ts</sup> that I know of to settle with me, & what Acc<sup>ts</sup> You have to settle with the Country may be done at a more proper Time —

I wish You well & am

Sir

Your humble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE

Since writ<sup>g</sup> the annex'd I have Your Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> — I think the poor Men that lost their Cloaths in pursuit of the Ind<sup>s</sup> under the Com<sup>d</sup> of C<sup>t</sup> Lewis, shou'd & I order You to supply them from the Cloathing You have at Winchester — Settle with Doct<sup>r</sup> Ross for the Provisions in the best Method You can — You have enclos'd a Letter to C<sup>t</sup> Swearingham from the Atto<sup>r</sup> wch deliver Yourself —

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Oct<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I wrote You by Jenkins to which be refer'd. As I have contracted with M<sup>r</sup> Ramsay to Supply the Forces in the Pay of this Country, that are in the Counties of Frederick & Hampshire, I enclose You a Copy of the Contract, that You may see the several Articles thereof properly perform'd & I am convinc'd this Contract will be a great Saving to the Country — & if M<sup>r</sup> Ramsay shou'd at any Time have occasion to transport any Provisions to the Forts in Hampshire, You are to grant him a proper Escort; — he is to furnish the Ind<sup>s</sup> with fresh Provis<sup>s</sup> so that You will have no Trouble on these Affairs.

Several People have applied to me for the Bounty on taking up Deserters, which I cannot pay till I have an Acc<sup>t</sup> from You of receiving those People from the Constables, wch I desire you will send me by first Oppty, that they may be paid in order to encourage others to take them up.

This comes by M<sup>r</sup>: Rich<sup>d</sup>: Smith the Ind<sup>n</sup>: Interpreter, who is to rem<sup>a</sup>: at Winchester till the Indians come in, with whom he is to go out to War — M<sup>r</sup>: Gist is to take care of the Indian Goods appropriated for Presents, which he is to dispose of on occasion in the same Method M<sup>r</sup>: Atkins did.

The Duncard's Petition was heard before me & the Council, & Y<sup>r</sup>: Letter in regard thereto; & as the People on the Frontiers are uneasy with them, believing them to be Spies;<sup>1</sup> it was resolv'd that You send a Party out to bring in the other two Brothers, with their Cattle & Horses & any Thing they have that they conveniently can bring with them, & to remain among the Inhabitants dur<sup>g</sup>: the present War, after which to be restored to their Lands, which Order You are to comply with in the most prudent Manner

I remain

Sir

Your humble Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup>: DINWIDDIE

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Articles of Agreement indented made & Agreed upon this Twenty first day of October in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred & fifty Seven, Between William Ramsay of the County of Fairfax of the one part & the hon<sup>ble</sup>: Robert Dinwiddie Esquire his Majesty's Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Colony & Dominion of Virginia for & in behalf of the Said Colony & Dominion of the Other part. —

Imprimis the said William Ramsay for the consideration herein

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<sup>1</sup> The Dunkers, Dunkards, or Brethren refuse to go to law or to engage in war.

Aftermentioned, doth Covenant & Agree to & with the Said Robert Dinwiddie that he the Said William Ramsay Shall & will <sup>from &</sup> After the first day of Novem<sup>r</sup>: next ensuing the date hereof till the first day of August w<sup>h</sup>: Shall be in the Year of our Lord 1758, at his own proper Cost & Charge find & provide for every Officer & Soldier that shall be in the pay of this Collony within the Counties of Frederick & hampshire during all the time Aforesaid & for Six Women to be allowed to each Company of Soldiers the following provisions (that is to Say) for every man or Woman each one pound of good & merchantable flower or bread & one pound of good Sound pork, or one & an half pound of good Sound beef, for every day during the time Aforesaid, And the Said William Ramsay doth further Covenant & Agree to & with the Said Rob<sup>t</sup>: Dinwiddie that he the Said W<sup>m</sup>: Ramsay shall & will at his own proper cost & charge provide a proper person at all & every the fortifications within the Counties Aforesaid, that are garrison'd with Officers & Soldiers <sup>that are</sup> Actually in the pay of this Colony, who Shall every week during the time Aforesaid at Such time or times in the week & to Such person or persons as Shall be Appointed by the Commanding Officer at the Said Fortifications issue & deliver the provisions Afore Said in the following manner, that is to Say, The pork in four & the beef in Six pound pieces, clear of heads & Shanks, being the Allowance for four persons in a mess, And the Said W<sup>m</sup>: Ramsay doth further covenant & Agree to & with the Said Rob<sup>t</sup>: Dinwiddie that he the S<sup>d</sup>: W<sup>m</sup>: Ramsay Shall & will at his own proper cost & Charge transport the provisions Aforesaid to the diff<sup>t</sup>: forts or to Such Other place or places in the Counties Aforesaid as Shall be Appointed by Coll<sup>o</sup>: George Washington or the commanding officer for the time being. And whereas there are Several Sorts of provisions remaining at Winchest<sup>r</sup>: & the forts within the Counties Aforesaid, he the Said W<sup>m</sup>: Ramsay doth further covenant & Agree to & with the Said Rob<sup>t</sup>: Dinwiddie that he the Said W<sup>m</sup>: Ramsay shall & will take the Said provis<sup>ns</sup>: to his own Accompt & give the Government Credit for the same, After the following rates, that is to Say, for every bushell of Salt that Shall be deliver'd him at Winchester the Sum of Six Shillings, & at any the Outforts the Sum of Ten Shillings, for every hundred pounds of

flower the Sum of nine Shillings for every pound of bacon the Sum of threepence, for every pound of dried or pickled beef the Sum of twopence halfpenny, & for every hundred pounds of biscuit the Sum of twelve Shillings & Six pence, & the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay doth further covenant & Agree to & with the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie That the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay Shall & will Supply all & every the forts Aforesaid with a Sufficient Number of Candles during all the time Aforesaid, And that if any Indians in Alliance with this Colony, Shall at any time during the time Aforesaid come into either of the Counties Aforesaid, he the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay Shall & will (upon receipt of an order from Christopher Gist for that purpose) provide them a Sufficient Quantity of fresh provisions, And the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay for himself his heirs, doth further covenant & Agree to & with the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie his heirs Executors & Administrators, Shall & will at all times well & truly <sup>ministrators</sup> Account with the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie or the commander in chief of this Collony for the time being for all Such Sum or Sums of money & provisions as he the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay Shall from time to time Receive from the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie for Supplying the Officers Soldiers & Women Aforesaid w<sup>t</sup> provisions as Aforesaid. And the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie for & in behalf of the Said Collony & dominion doth covenant & Agree to & with the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay to pay or cause to be paid to the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay at or before the Sealing & delivery of these <sup>Articles of Agreement the Sum of £1500 Curr<sup>t</sup> money w<sup>t</sup> Said Sum shall be Accounted for by</sup> Administrators & to allow the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay his heirs & Executors & the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay the Sum of Sixpence <sup>per</sup> day for every Officer Soldier & Woman that he the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay Shall provide with provisions as Aforesaid provided the Said number of Women dont Exceed Six for each Comp<sup>o</sup> of Soldiers, And the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie doth further covenant & Agree to & with the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay that the Said Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie will well & truly pay or cause to be paid to the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay the Sum of Eight pence <sup>per</sup> day for every Indian that shall be Supplyd by him the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay with <sup>fresh</sup> provisions as Aforesaid, & the Sum of Sixpence for every pound of Candles that Shall be us'd in the Several forts Aforesaid provided by the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay And that if any of the forts to w<sup>h</sup> the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay Shall have transported any provisions Shall be evacuated in that case the

provisions So by the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay to that place transported Shall be from thence transported to Such place as the commanding Officer Shall Appoint at the cost & Charge of the Governm<sup>t</sup> and if the fort or forts to w<sup>h</sup> Such provis<sup>ns</sup> Shall by the Said W<sup>m</sup> be transported Shall be taken by the Enemy or the provisions taken as they are transporting the Governm<sup>t</sup> Shall pay the Said William for the Same, And the carriage thereof & it is further Agreed by & between the parties Aforesaid that all the provisions that shall be provided by the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay before they are Receiv'd, from the Said W<sup>m</sup> Ramsay Shall be inspected by any two persons as Shall be Appointed by Coll<sup>o</sup> George Washington or the commanding Officer for the time being In Witness whereof the parties to these presents have interchangably Set their hands & Affixt the day and year first Above written

Sign'd Seal'd & delivred                      W<sup>m</sup> RAMSAY [L S]  
 in the presence of                              ROBT<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE [L S]  
 JOHN TABB  
 W<sup>m</sup> WITHERS

A true Copy from the Original

[Indorsed by Washington — "Receiv'd at Fort Loudoun the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Novr. 1757."]

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FROM MAJOR JOHN TULLIKEN.

CHARLESTOWN SOUTH CAROLINA Oct<sup>r</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR.

Your very Agreeable letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> of May I but very lately had the pleasure of receiving, I am much oblig'd to you for the good Opinion you have of me. And it gave me great pleasure to be Congratulated on my Promotion By a Person that I have so great an esteem for. As I have for Colonel Washington; I shou'd be glad to hear that your Campaign was well over. And that you had got safe into good Quarters. We are all much concern'd here to find

how different things have turned out, to what we expected, when I had the pleasure of seeing you at Philadelphia; We hope to be recall'd from this Province in the Spring. If we are. I hope we shall serve the next Campaign together with Colonel Stanwix, as to what little news there is. I refer you to Captain Mercers letter As he tells me he writes to you, I have the honour to be.

Dear Sir.

Your much obliged

& very Obed<sup>t</sup> Hum<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J<sup>N</sup><sup>O</sup> TULLIKEN —

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FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA 30<sup>th</sup> Octo<sup>br</sup> 1757 —

DEAR SIR,

I intended before now to have taken the pleasure of writing you, but have always, somehow, been put off —

The late instance of your Friendship when last at Winche<sup>r</sup> demand my acknowledgements, which I offer with the warmest gratitude — nor cou'd I help regarding your Kindness without a mixture of Fear — lest, my not accepting these offer'd services, shoud be construed, an unjust contempt of your respect — which woud have been a very unfavourable construction — and equally repugnant to the sentiments, I entertain of your sincerity — & the duty I owe your Merit — but, why this Apology, when I consider your Generous & Candid disposition? — yet, the mis-

carriage of My answer to your affectionate Letter by Hamilton, partly requires it —

How deserving you may think me, of the Honour of your Friendship, woud be vanity to suppose, in any degree — yet, the repeated proofs of your regard, are strong motives to stand approved in your Esteem — a Wish (above all wishes) I have desired to accomplish, since my First Lucky admission to your Acquaintance — and coud rejoice in an opportunity of giving more convincing proof than it is at present in my power —

I have laid aside my design of going to Williamsbg — as I get my business done without the trouble of a journey — if at any time you desire my assistance, here or elsewhere, before you go down to Williamsbg I am obedient to your command — and beg you woud use me, without ceremony, in any thing I can serve you —

We can entertain You with nothing new From this place — Our Admiration & pleasure is raised, to see the preparations For the entertainment of Your Troops this Winter — which must be elegantly — if <sup>we</sup> dare conclusions From the apparent transportation of Necessary's From hence to Winches! — I am with great truth. Dear Sir

Your very Much Oblig'd & Obt Serv:

JN<sup>o</sup> KIRKPATRICK

FROM CHARLES LEWIS, ESQ.

VAUX HALL November 1<sup>st</sup> 1757

D<sup>R</sup> COL<sup>O</sup>.—'Tis now some Time since I wrote to M<sup>r</sup> Woodford, desireing him to procure me the Papers I left in y<sup>r</sup> Hands relative to my Affair with Reynolds, I am now in want of them, and as he inform'd me You would send them if wanting. I beg you'll contrive them p<sup>r</sup> first Opportunity. I received Yrs in which You inform me of Y<sup>r</sup> giving Jackson the Liberty to inlist a Man in Lieu of himself, I am much oblig'd to You for the Indulgence, & indeed could have expected no more.

I should not desire the Papers but Reynolds has sued me & I can't possibly do without them, I should think a Copy of them would do for y<sup>r</sup> Bussiness, I am S<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> oblig'd

Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>CH<sup>s</sup> LEWIS —  

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Nov<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1757

SIR

Y<sup>r</sup> Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> — And as You observe the absolute Necessity of having a Company of Rangers, I agree to the raising sixty, seventy or 80 Men to be Comd<sup>d</sup> by M<sup>r</sup> Rutherford, but You must be certain of his raising the Men, not to load the Country with a Charge, as formerly, without Men to the different Companies; — I do not doubt of Y<sup>r</sup>

keeping them strictly to their Duty — his Pay, with first and second Lieu<sup>s</sup> to be the same as the Officers in Your Regmt — & as the private Men are to have 12<sup>d</sup> <sup>Ⓕ</sup> Day they are to have no enlisting Money or Clothing, & if possible they are to furnish their own Arms, but if they cannot You are to supply them by delivering a Number to C<sup>t</sup> Rutherford, on his Receipt to restore them Casualties excepted; & they are to be provided with Provisions by the Contractor; this I hope will encourage the Settlers to rem<sup>a</sup> on their Plantations.

I always was strongly of Opinion that an Offensive War was most eligible, & I have repeatedly urg'd it, tho' always disappointed, & before I leave this I shall endeavor again to represent it to his Lordship.

You did very right in furnishing the Cherokees from Pensylva<sup>a</sup> with Horses &c. I wonder C<sup>t</sup> Gist writes Nothing of the Indians that were on the Branch, returning Home; I hope they did not go disgusted.

As formerly, I leave the Settlem<sup>t</sup> with D<sup>t</sup> Ross, entirely to Y<sup>r</sup>Self, & what You do therein will be approv'd of — I am much indisposed — I remain

Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Care in hav<sup>e</sup> proper      Your mo. h<sup>ble</sup> Servant  
L<sup>s</sup> for C<sup>t</sup> Rutherford              ROBT<sup>T</sup> DINWIDDIE  
will be for the Public Serv.

FROM CAPTAIN GEORGE MERCER.

DEAR COLONEL —

Tho I have not been favored with an Answer to one of the many Letters I have wrote you since I came here, yet I will not let any Opportunity slip, agreeable to my Promise ; as I shall attribute this, to your Letters miscarrying, for I woud not suppose but you have wrote.

Notwithstanding every Precaution which the Governour pretended he had taken, to have Us regularly paid, We have already been three Months without Pay, & so far advanced in a fourth that I doubt it will not be the last — Col<sup>o</sup> Stephen sends an Express to inform the Governour of this, and of the Impossibility of keeping the Men without Pay — They have yet behaved extreamly well, & tis Pity the Country shoud lose so many good Men after becoming serviceable ; and I dont much doubt but they may with one Consent refuse to serve Us, & enlist with the Regulars ; some of Them have attempted it already, & been severely punished, but I am certain shoud it come to that, as they all know We cant oblige Them to continue without their Pay, they woud give Them any Encouragement to enlist with Them — Tho to do the Gentlemen Justice they have yet done all in their Power to prevent it, but it woud be for the Interest of the Co<sup>m</sup>on Cause to have Them enlisted in another Regiment rather than suffer Them wholly to quit the Service — What must add greatly to promote Uneasiness & Discontent in Them, is that they see every Soldier here (except Themselves) paid Weekly —

We have lately had a Reinforcement here from Britain of 1000 Highlanders under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Montgomerie — I assure you they are a Set of fine Fellows, but quite undisciplined yet — They take great Pains with them tho, & they improve daily —

I could but think my Friends had forgot Me, when the Drummer who came from you never brought Me a Line from any Body; I have interrogated him often in Regard to the Disposition & Strength of our Reg<sup>t</sup>: he could give Me no very satisfactory Account of either, as I imagine, tho he seems positive in his Assertions — What made Me give the less Credit to his Reports was, that he says Bell — who I remember when I left Virg<sup>a</sup>: was struck off the List, is sent to the Cherokee Fort with 200 Men, surely they would scarce reinstate him, & after trust him with such a Command I can't think it possible, the most unfit Person that ever was in the Service for such a Charge — Cap<sup>t</sup>: Paul Demere is sent from this Place, to the S<sup>o</sup>: Carolina Fort built there, really two very proper Men to manage Indians.

We have still hoped to see Virginia this Fall, till the Arrival of a Man of War from Lord Loudoun — Col<sup>o</sup>: Bouquet says perhaps We may get Home in the Spring if there is nothing material to do — but if there is — Says he, by Way of Hum Bug, We cant do without you.

I find my long Stay in this Place has only increased the very bad Opinion I at first conceived of it — To say no more of it 'tis the most extravagant & uncomfortable Place I ever was in — Upon my

Honor tis with some Degree of Economy that I can live here upon my Pay — The Towns People dont desire to cultivate an Acquaintance or maintain a Society with Us, so that were it not for the Harmony that subsists between Ourselves (the Officers) it woud be intolerable

I am not a little surprized that We have no late News with Us — A Vessel from Britain in Seven Weeks has given Us very little fresh Intelligence; Save only there being a very Strong Fleet of at least 30 Men of War, 400 Transports & 10,000 Troops, among which is about 4 or 500 light Horse being ready at Plymouth when they left it to undertake a secret Expedition which S<sup>r</sup> John Mordaunt conducts, & has two other Generals with him There are three Admirals too with the Fleet — Hawke Knowles & Boscowen —

A French Prize was sent in here last Week, computed to be worth £40,000 Ster —

I assure you I long much to see you again — were I safe at Home S<sup>o</sup> Carolina woud be the last Place I ever woud come to —

Be pleased the first Opportunity to present my Compliments to your Mother & all your Family — I am

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

Your much obliged Friend & hble Servant

G<sup>o</sup> MERCER —

CHARLES TOWN }  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> 1757 }

FROM THE HONORABLE SPEAKER ROBINSON.

W<sup>M</sup>BURGH Nov: 3. 1757

DEAR SIR/

I received your favour by Brinker, and am Sensibly affected with the Miserable Situation of the unhappy People in your part of the Country, and am greatly concerned at the uneasiness I know you suffer on their Acc<sup>t</sup> in not having it [in] your Power to prevent their Miseries, or put a Stop to the cruel and inhuman Murders comitted upon them, I, and every Body else, must agree <sup>with you</sup> that the acting offensively is the only method of doing it, and of the Impossibility of guarding against the Wolfish cunning of the Savages by keeping the Men in Forts and Garrisons; I had occasion to wait on the Gov<sup>r</sup> soon after I rec<sup>d</sup> your Letter, when I asked his Honor if he had not rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from You, he told me he had, and asked the Same Question of me to which I answered in the Affirmative, and informed him of the Contents, his answer was that he was always of Opinion that an attempt ought to have [been]. made last Summer to take Fort Du Quesne, and annoy the Enemy in their Settlements, and that he had pressed Lord Loudoun two or three times on the Subject, but his Lordship told him that he had received a Plan of Operations from home and that he would not deviate from it; The Gov<sup>r</sup> at the same time told me that he should send a Commission to Rutherford to raise a Company of Rangers to consist of Eighty men, which he hoped would be of some use in preventing the Savages from coming so far down to

destroy the Inhabitants, for my part, I confess I expect no great Matters from them, I was this Morning told that the Gov<sup>r</sup> should say part of the Royal American Regiment was upon their march to our Frontiers, but he mentioned nothing of it to me, his Honor is at this time almost wholly taken up with settle<sup>ing</sup> his Affairs for his departure, as he expects a Man of War every day to carry him, We have not yet heard who is to succeed him, God send it may be some Body better acquainted with<sup>the</sup> unhappy Business we have in hand, and by his Conduct and counsel dispel the heavy cloud at present hanging over this distressed and unhappy Country, till which happy Event, I beg my dear Friend, you will bear, so far as a Man of Honor ought, the discouragement and Sights you have too often met with and continue to serve your Country, as I am thoroughly convinced you have always hitherto done, in the best manner you can with the small assistance that is afforded You I sincerely wish You all happiness and especially that you may [be] speedily eased from that Anxiety which a generous Spirit must labour under from not having it in his Power to relieve the distresses of his unhappy Country more — I am

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Your Most Aff<sup>te</sup> Friend  
and Servant

JOHN ROBINSON

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FROM CAPTAIN STEWART TO GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

HON<sup>BLE</sup> SIR

(A Copy)

For upwards of three Months past Col<sup>o</sup> Washington has labour'd under a Bloody Flux, about a week ago his Disorder greatly increas'd attended with bad Fevers the day before yesterday he was seiz'd with Stitches & violent Pleuretick Pains upon which the Doct<sup>r</sup> Bled him and yesterday he twice repeated the same operation. This complication of Disorders greatly perplexes the Doct<sup>r</sup> as what is good for him in one respect hurts him in another, the Doct<sup>r</sup> has strongly recommended his immediately changing his air and going some place where he can be kept quiet (a thing impossible here) being the best chance that now remains for his Recovery, the Col<sup>o</sup> objected to following this Advice before he could procure Y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>s</sup> Liberty but the Doc<sup>r</sup> gave him such reasons as convinc'd him it might then be too late and he has at length with reluctance agreed to it; therefore has Directed me to acquaint Y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>r</sup> (as he is not in condition to write himself) of his resolution of leaving this immediately and of his reasons for doing it which I have now the honor to do —<sup>1</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>s</sup> Letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> (by Smith) did not reach the Col<sup>o</sup> till the afternoon of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> he has since sent a Copy of Y<sup>r</sup> Contract with M<sup>r</sup> Ramsay to the Command<sup>r</sup> Officer of each Garrison in this and

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<sup>1</sup> Washington went to Mount Vernon, when his disorder settled into a slow fever that confined him several months, and reduced him so greatly in strength that he was not able to resume his command until April following.

Hampshire Counties and issued the necessary Orders relative thereto —

There's no Deserters been brought to the Regiment by Constables or others for which the Col<sup>o</sup> has not paid Rewards

In consequence of your Orders the Col<sup>o</sup> has Commanded Capt<sup>o</sup> Waggoner to Form as strong a Party as he can by Detachments from the different Garrisons on the Branch to bring in the Duncards But he humbly conceives it would have been prudent to have confin'd the Duncard Doc<sup>r</sup> till the Return of this Party as it's more than probable that if he's disaffected to our Government which many violently suspect he and his Brothers will immediately move to Fort Duquesne, give the Commanding Officer there Intelligence of our Intentions and thereby enable him to Form some Plan for the Destruction of our Party But as the Col<sup>os</sup> Orders were positive he did not choose to defer the Execution of them —

When I last had the honor of writing You I inform'd Y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>r</sup> of my Intentions of applying to Lord Loudoun so soon as could hear of his Lordship's going into Winter Quarters I have since communicated my Intentions to Col<sup>o</sup> Washington, who was Pleas'd to approve of it but exprest some Inclination to have Y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup> approbation of my leave of absence to Wait on his Lordship wherever He may be, this I flatter myself You will be Pleas'd to do which will much oblige &c

(Sign'd) ROBERT STEWART

FORT LOUDOUN  
Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 1757

FROM THE REVEREND WILLIAM SMITH.<sup>1</sup>PHILAD<sup>A</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1757

SR

You'll perceive your name in the list of those who 'tis hoped will encourage the enclosed Magazine,<sup>2</sup> & I hope you'll forgive the Liberty we have taken as you are placed in good Company & in a good design. Tis a work which may be rendered of very general Service to all the Colonies. We shall be under particular Obligations for every Subscriber you can procure, to give the work a general Run. I have not been unmindful of the Papers you sent relating to the French Memorial, & you would have seen proper use made of them before now, if they had not been designed to be inter [mutilated] in the general History of the present War, which you find promised in the Magazine I shall therefore, be greatly obliged to you for every Light you can throw upon that Subject, relating to the Representations made by the Ohio Company, the first Steps taken by your Government with the French & Indians from 1749 to 1753, & from thence to the Defeat of General Braddock. As you acted a principal part in all these Affairs, and as it is our design to do the utmost Jus-

<sup>1</sup> Provost, of the "College, Academy and Charitable School of Philadelphia," was a Scotchman, educated in the University of Aberdeen. During the Revolution Dr. Smith and other trustees of the Institution were accused of "Toryism," the charter of the college was annulled, and the University of Pennsylvania, with Dr. John Ewing at its head, established in its stead.

<sup>2</sup> Probably the *American Magazine and Monthly Chronicle for the British Colonies*, the second periodical of that name published in Philadelphia, and volume I. of which appeared during this time. There is, however, in Washington's Ledger an item of interest in this connection showing his subscription to the "*Pennsylvania Magazine*" (so he calls it) at "50/. deducting 25 pr. ct."

tice to all concerned, & especially those Patriots & brave men born in America, who have distinguished themselves in the present war, I must rely on your Assistance, so far as comes within your knowledge. I doubt not you have Journals of every Thing, & you may depend the most prudent Use shall be made of them. To you in particular we shall do all Justice, without suffering our Friendship to influence us farther than the world shall confess your just merits require. As this history is to be a full one & will probably be long preserved, I flatter myself that your Regard for your Country & Desire to have its Interests understood will excuse this trouble, & induce you to send me as soon as possible what I have requested. If we delay long, the Thing may fall to other hands, less inclined to a disinterested Execution of it. I have already had many Materials from the Northern Governments. Send the Subscribers Names for the Magazine to me, but do not mention my name to any Body. I am with much Esteem

Your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

W. SMITH

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FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM PEACHEY.<sup>1</sup>

RICHMOND COUNTY 14<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR

I received your kind letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> September about a week ago, the sight of which caused at almost the same instant both a pleasing, & disagreeable sensation; a pleasing that I had so agreeable a

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<sup>1</sup> From a copy.

friend & correspondent: a disagreeable that I had once enjoyed the company of that friend, whom I had scarcely known to be such, but I lost the sweets of a Friendship I had long and greatly desired, by being under the necessity of leaving that part of the world, where alone I could meet with that friend. In poor Spotswood I lost a man I loved as a brother. I lament the untimely fate of Bullit. Both of whom I am convinced would have made good soldiers in any other service but that of Virginia where a man must either push himself into the jaws of death & that too without the least hope of redemption, or be subject to the calumnious tongues of a sort of base seducers, whose knowledge does not extend farther than perhaps the information of a parcel of dastardly cowards who thro' fear, Laziness, or indolence, joined with a duly hoggish disposition have deserted the Virginia Regiment & tell a pack of scandalous lies, to screen themselves, which as effectually answers the end, as gunpowder does to throw a bullet out of a cannon. Your letter tells me you wish I had been continued in the regiment. Ay, I wish so too with all my heart; at least till I had had an opportunity to convince the world I was not afraid to face the most dreadful enemy of human life, when necessary — Your letter also says. Can't you get one of the additional companys? I believe I could. What then? Can I think that Col<sup>o</sup>. Washington would desire me to come into the Regiment upon such terms (viz. the loss of my rank) No I believe he knows me too well & is more my friend, for if I should, I should imagine that not only the Officers but every soldier

in the corps would point me out for a fool & Bagg<sup>e</sup> who could no other wise subsist. Tho I confess freely that some of the follies of the army too soon crept on me, for which I now condemn myself, can you think that my Foibles were glaring enough to have subjected me to the extreme ill treatment I met with in the Reduction. I am upon a scheme in which I would take your advice. If I could procure letters recommendatory from the leading men of the Colony with one from yourself to Lord Loudoun, What service do you think it would be of to me in the military Way to the Norw<sup>rd</sup> Might I not expect a commission of some sort in a few Months provided there was a small matter of cash in the way; for you must know, that tho' I have a sufficiency to live genteely on at home, my estate would not long hold out in the volunteering way nor should I care to advance much for a commission as I have children to provide for. Your sentiments freely on the matter will be taken as a particular favour. There is a flying report here that some expedition is on foot in your quarter, that Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwicks has order'd the Virg<sup>a</sup> troops to join him shortly at Rays Town, if so, do give me notice as soon as possible, for I am determined if a thing of that kind should happen before I am otherwise provided for, to have one brush with you, as a volunteer. Upon a second application to the Governor about my arrears, he insists that M<sup>r</sup> Boyd has the money for those purposes & he had nothing to do with it, so that if I don't get the cash through their means I suppose I must go without it altogether. N. B. he saw the certificate. I was going

to conclude but I can't help giving you a piece of conversation that passed not long since between the Governor & my brother, the clerk of Amelia. says his honour, Well, master Peachey, I am very sorry your brother is reduced, for I understand he was a very useful man, but it was not my fault, I assure you, I could not help it, for it came in turn, & all this he said without the things being mentioned or even thought of by my brother. Now what do you think of this? I shall now conclude with this assurance, that I am with respect,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

W<sup>M</sup>. PEACHEY

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG Nov<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Y<sup>r</sup> Letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> I duly rec<sup>d</sup> & I am much surpriz'd at what You write that the Ind<sup>n</sup> Affairs have been impeded by a Train of Mismanagem<sup>t</sup> when I consider M<sup>r</sup> Atkin's Report that he had established every Thing in regard to those People in a most regular Manner I have wrote the Necessary to C<sup>t</sup> Gist on that Head, & order'd up a Q<sup>nty</sup> of Goods from Petersburg for that Service w<sup>ch</sup> I hope will be at Winchester before this reaches You. I have it much at Heart to encourage the Cherokees & did not doubt but M<sup>r</sup> Atkin had agreeable to his Declarat<sup>n</sup> fix'd every Thing in proper Order, if any Deficiency I hope the Goods sent up will supply; &

C: Gist writes that he sent away the last 20, & nine that came before, tolerably pleas'd, by the Advance of some Goods;— & You write that with the Advice of Y: Officers You stretched a point in supply<sup>g</sup> them with some Necessaries, w<sup>ch</sup> I suppose was more than what C: Gist had given them.

I am glad the last Party had the Success of scalping two & wounding a third of the Enemy, they are to be applauded & rewarded for their Service — Gist complains he has no Goods which surprizes me, when M: Atkin says he left upwards of 800<sup>l</sup> in Goods, with him; I believe they were design'd for the Catawbas, but on Occasion they sh<sup>d</sup> be made use of for those Indians that may come to our Assistance, & those for the Catawbas may hereafter be compleated, as the Cotry has sent Home for a large Q<sup>nty</sup>.

The Interpreter Smith left this a Month ago contrary to my Opinion M: Atkin sent him by Augusta but I hope he is with You long before this reaches You. Gist's Employ<sup>mt</sup> is to take Care of the Ind<sup>s</sup> & to deliver them Presents with discretion, & he has Goods for that Purpose, if not restrain'd by M: Atkin's Instructions, but I suppose he now writes him fully how to act.

M: Boyd carried up Money to pay C: Gist & the others employ'd by M: Atkin till the 14<sup>th</sup> of last Month:— the Neglect or Delay of the Interpreter has Occasion'd some Difficulties entirely owing to M: Atkin sending him by Augusta but I hope he is now with You.

I have formerly wrote You to know the Demands of the poor People on Acc: of the Ind<sup>s</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> I dare

say is but a Trifle if any Thing, M<sup>r</sup> Boyd carried up Money for several of them; — Gordon's Acc<sup>t</sup> was paid, Brinker was also p<sup>d</sup>. — & a Person from the S<sup>o</sup> Branch carried up Money to pay several Acc<sup>ts</sup> there; & if any is now due it is the People's own Fault in not giving them to M<sup>r</sup> Boyd there has been a considerable Sum p<sup>d</sup> this Court on that Acc<sup>t</sup> — besides 220 to M<sup>r</sup> Atkin for the Ind<sup>s</sup> Expences dur<sup>g</sup> his Time, & indeed I was in hopes there was no more due.

I am with Respect

Sir

Your mo. h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE <sup>1</sup>

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FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE TO CAPTAIN STEWART.

WILLIAMSBURG Nov: 15<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> Your Letter by Jenkins last Night — The violent Complaint Col<sup>o</sup> Washington labors under

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<sup>1</sup> Governor Dinwiddie sailed for England in January, 1758. His departure was not much regretted, although the Council together with the municipality of Williamsburg addressed him in language expressive of their esteem and respect. Sparks writes of the governor that, however amiable in his social relations, however zealous in the discharge of his public trusts, he failed to win the hearts or command the respect of the people. Least of all was he qualified to transact military affairs. His whole course of conduct was marked with a confusion, uncertainty, and waywardness which caused infinite perplexity to Washington. Every one regarded the change as salutary to the interests of the colony. Dinwiddie's place was filled for a short time by John Blair, President of the Council, until the arrival of Francis Fauquier, the next governor. The Earl of Loudoun had been commissioned as successor to Governor Dinwiddie, but his military occupations at the north prevented his entering upon the duties of his office.

gives me great Concern, it was unknown to me or he shou'd have had Leave of Absence sooner, & I am very glad he did not delay following the Doct<sup>rs</sup> Advice, to try a Change of Air, I sincerely wish him a speedy Recovery.

I observe what You write in regard to the Contractor, & Instructions given to Cap<sup>t</sup> Waggoner all which I approve of — I desire You will in Your next give me a List of Deserters rec<sup>d</sup> & to whom the Money was paid, as I have been much troubled with Applications for the Reward; — it is wrong to pay the Constables, for they are not the People that apprehend them —

I wrote You lately about Y<sup>r</sup> waiting on Lord Loudoun, & if You obtain Col<sup>o</sup> Washington's Consent I shall not object to Your going to the N<sup>o</sup> w. as You propose, & heartily wish You Success.

I am Respectfully

Sir

Your Most h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

ROB<sup>t</sup> DINWIDDIE.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This is a kindly letter from the governor, and shows that he was not entirely devoid of sympathy. If his "confusion, uncertainty, and waywardness" had been exhibited towards any one other than Washington, might not certain views of him be somewhat modified, and a higher standing in American annals be accorded to him? It has been said that he was one of the best governors that Virginia ever had.

FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>WINCHESTER the 22<sup>d</sup> of Nov: 1757

SIR

It is much against my desire, to give you trouble in your Circumstances; but as I am inform'd that it is your Misfortune not to be free'd of Publick Business even now: I write you the Present Circumstance of the Company — I imagine by this time they are about 40 and as the Enemy is discovered Nigh Cap<sup>n</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kenzy's have Ordered Lieu<sup>t</sup> Swearingin with the men recruited by him, to Scour the woods about back Creek &c and to Send Out Scouts along the banks of Potowmack Cape capon, & the Warm Springs to make discoveries, and have ordered Lieu<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Dowell to act in the Same Manner in the District of Creedon Creek — but among the Populace (ever grossly Ignorant) there seems to Prevail Some Objections that Retard the Speedy raising the Company — which I hope you can readily remove — Notwithstanding they have been assured to the Contrary in the Strongest terms — they are Possess'd of the Notion that they are to be ensnar'd, into the Regiment So that if you can Certify 2. or 3. words under your hand that they are not ~~to serve~~ inlisted as Soldiers or to serve as such in Keeping Garrison, Mounting Guards &c. but only to act as Rangers under their own Officers, it woud greatly facilitate, and Expedite the Matter, or if they Coud be inlisted at First for 12. Months. it woud be infinitely the best

<sup>1</sup> Son of Thomas and Susannah (Dobbin) Rutherford, married Mrs. Mary Howe; their daughter Susan married John Peyton. Robert Rutherford represented Frederick, Berkeley, and Hampshire counties in the Senate, 1777-1785.

Scheem & woud render it in my Power to make my own Choice of men imediately, and shoud always be able to keep the Company Compleate, as very few of those, woud ever Leave the Company while their Service Should be wanting

I greatly regret your Indisposition, Sincerely wish you a Safe Recovery, and am with Just Esteem

Sir

Your most

Ob<sup>t</sup> Hble

Ser<sup>t</sup>

R. RUTHERFORD

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FROM CAPTAIN STEWART TO COLONEL STANWIX.

(A Copy)

SIR

For near Four Months past Col<sup>o</sup> Washington has Labour'd under a Bloody Flux which till of late he did not conceive could be productive of those bad consequences it now too probably will terminate in, at least he would not be prevaild upon in any Degree to abate the exertion of that steady Zeal for the Interest of the Service he in so eminent a manner has always been remarkable for, however about two Weeks ago his Disorder greatly encreas'd and at the same time was seiz'd with Stitches & violent Pleu-retick Pains under that Complication of Disorders his Strength & vigour diminish'd so fast that in a few days he was hardly able to Walk and was (by the Doct<sup>r</sup>) at length prevail'd upon to leave this place

as change of air & quietness (which he could not possibly enjoy here) was the best Chance that remain'd for his Recovery he is now Retir'd to his Seat on Potowmack River (about 90 Miles from hence) his Physicians give him no room to hope for his speedy Recovery. I heard from him yesterday, he expresses much concern for his omission of not giving you previous Notice of the necessity he was under of leaving this place and as he's not in condition to write himself desires Me to inform you of the reasons of it which I have now the hon<sup>r</sup> to do & beg's leave to subscribe myself

Very respectfully

Sir

&c

(Signed) ROBERT STEWART

FORT LOUDOUN  
Nov<sup>em</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1757

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FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

DEAR SIR

When big with the hopes of your speedy Recovery indulging myself in the pleasing thought and impatiently expecting the agreeable Acco<sup>ts</sup> Jenkins handed me your very obliging & affectionate Epistle of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>. But how great was my Disappointment at Acc<sup>t</sup> of the bad State your obstinate & deeply rooted Disorder has reduc'd you to? I easily conceive how disagreeable it must be to a person of sense to be laid under a necessity of paying a due deference to the Pompous Grimace and formal Prescriptions of the Learn'd Faculty under whose hands you have

the misfortune of being, but I hope My Dear Col: that not only regard to Self Preservation but to your Country in general and the Regiment in particular will induce you implicitly to obey every Order your Physicians may Judge necessary for the Conservation of that Life all Justly rate so high and for which you are undoubtedly in some measure answerable to your Country I Beg you'll Pardon this Freedom which proceeds from the deep Concern I'm under. —

By the Inclos'd from M: Rutherford you'll observe his Success — Cap: Swearingen requests you'll send him a Line signifying that the Rangers will not be Incorporated into the Regiment and if you cou'd limit the time of their Service it would greatly accelerate the Recruiting — Cunningham (of the Mill) says that M: Ross Bargain'd with him for a q<sup>ty</sup> of Flower to be Deliver'd here, and that the Contractor won't receive it he begs to be inform'd what to do? Capt: Trent wants to know if you'll be Security for the Indian Goods Capt: Gist wants from him? — Bush says the things you ordered for the Artillery will amount to a pretty large Sum, he daily expects them and as he's to pay ready money for them begs you'll Please give orders for paying him — In consequence of the Inclos'd from Cap: M: Kinzie I sent up the Dun<sup>1</sup> Doc: which I hope you'll approve of — no acco<sup>ts</sup> of the Enemy since — The Works goes on here as well as can be expected both your Smith & Trigg have been sick for several Days but are now got to work again — M: Boyd arrived some time since with four Months Pay 2 of which he has paid

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<sup>1</sup> Duncard.

I Beg you'll [mutilated] neasiness from the affairs on the Frontiers as they are in as good a Posture as can reasonably be hop'd for.

Agreeable to your Desire I have wrote to Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix (who is now mov'd to Lancaster) Inclos'd is a Copy thereof likewise of my last to the Governor and his answer by which you'll observe he Orders me to send him a List of the Deserters that were brought back to the Regiment and to whom the Rewards were paid? this I cannot do unless you'll Please send it me from your Cash or Rec<sup>t</sup> Book His Hon<sup>r</sup> has given his approbation to my going to the North<sup>d</sup> and when I reflect how far the Season is already advanc'd how much time it will require to perform my part in the Event of Success the Difficulties Delays may occasion and how vastly improbable my ever having such another chance I begin to Dread I have stayed too long, therefore requests you'll be Pleas'd to give me your Leave and would it not fatigue you too much a Letter to His Lordship and another to Capt<sup>n</sup> Cunningham would be of infinite Service to me as you must be suppos'd to know me (as a Soldier)<sup>^</sup><sup>better</sup> than any that have Recommended me I would [mutilated]s give you so much trouble in your present Situation did not this seem to be my last Effort for being extricated out of that disagreeable uncertainty in which I have so long liv'd and were I not morally certain your Letters wou'd be of vast advantage to me —

I Return you M<sup>r</sup> Smith's Letter Magazine &c with a List of what have and will beyond a doubt Subscribe will exert myself in getting all I can —

I'm vext I have tir'd you with the tedious length of this will only add my most fervent Wishes for your speedy Recovery which would make everybody here immensely happy particularly him who ever is

With the most perfect Esteem & Respect.

Dear Sir

Your most Affectionate &

Most Obliged hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

ROBERT STEWART

FORT LOUDOUN }  
Novem 24<sup>th</sup> 1757 — }

As for Election [mutilated] ry thing goes on }  
in all Quart [mutilated] sfaction — No Acco<sup>ts</sup> }  
[mutilated] w Govern! }

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FROM DR. JAMES CRAIK.<sup>1</sup>

FORT LOUDOUN Nov<sup>r</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1757

DEAR SIR

The disagreeable news I rec<sup>d</sup> by Jenkins, of the Increase of your disorder, is real concern to me — I had been flattering myself with the Pleasant hope of seeing you here again soon — thinking that the change of Air, with the quiet Situation of Mount Vernon would have been a Speedy means of your recovery — however as your disorder hath been of long Standing, and hath corrupted the whole mass

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. James Craik (a lifelong friend of Washington, and his attendant in his last illness) was born at Obigland, Scotland, in 1732; married, in 1760, Marianne Ewell, daughter of Colonel Edwin and Sarah (Ball) Ewell; and died on his plantation, "Vaucluse," near Alexandria, January 6, 1814.

of Blood — it will require some time for to remove the cause — And I hope by the Assistance of God and the requisite care, that will be taken of you, where you now are; that tho' your disorder may reduce you to the lowest ebb; yet you will in a short time get the better of it — And render your friends here happy, by having the honour of serving once more under your Command — As nothing is more conducive to a Speedy recovery, than a tranquill easy mind, Accompanied with a good flow of Spirits — I would beg of you; not as a Physician; but as a real friend who has your Speedy recovery Sincerely at heart; that you will keep up your Spirits, and not allow your mind to be disturbed, with any part of Publick bussiness; that perhaps may not be going on so well, as your concern for the Publick could wish — Any little slip of this kind, that might happen, would be trifling to the Neglect of yourself — The fate of your Friends and Country are in a manner dependent upon your recovery — And as I am sensible of the regard you have for both I make no doubt, but that you will use every endeavour that will be in the least conducive to your recovery — so that both may still rejoice in the enjoyment of you — I am very much Surprised at Doct<sup>r</sup> Browns Neglect in not coming to see you, I cannot see how he can Account for it. — I wish Doct<sup>r</sup> Jameson could be got, I have a great oppinion of his judgment and I really believe he would be of Service to you —

Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix I am inform'd is to continue in Winter Quarters at Lancaster — If it is agreeable to you, I should be glad of your permission to go there, in

order to see my Cousin Capt<sup>n</sup> Stewart — The Sick in the Hospitall are very few at present, which emboldens me to apply for leave — As reading & writing must be very troublesome to you in your present Circumstance — I shall only Pray God, who is the best of all Physicians, that he in his infinite mercy, may restore you, to your wonted health, and preserve you in the Command which is so agreeable to many, and none more so, than to him, who has the honour to subscribe himself with the greatest Duty & Esteem

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Your Most Aff<sup>e</sup> & Devoted hum<sup>e</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

JA<sup>s</sup> CRAIK

P. S. Please hint to me  
in a few lines, if your  
disorder hath yet taken  
a turn for the better

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL.<sup>1</sup>

SIR/

I make bold to address you & require your permission to leave the Virginia Regiment as likewise if you think I deserve it y<sup>r</sup> L<sup>r</sup> recommendatory to his Hon<sup>r</sup> the Gov<sup>r</sup> or any other you may be pleas'd to offer that might be serviceable to me in carrying Arms to the Northward in some of the British Regiments

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<sup>1</sup> This letter, without date, was written early in 1757, and is placed here because it is so arranged in the original manuscripts.

From the small Acquaintance I can boast you have hon<sup>d</sup> me with I have discovered that a few Apologies & a good deal of Sincerity are amongst the things you like best I offer you as little of the first as is consistent with Politeness, as much of the latter as I am capable of affording, & if a frank & open Declaration of my Intentions entitles me to y<sup>r</sup> Esteem, perhaps you may think I deserve it — Truth & Sincerity shall flow from my Pen destitute of Adulation, destitute of unbecoming Design, destitute of ev'ry thing w<sup>ch</sup> shou'd not accompany it.

Know then S<sup>r</sup> nothing less than the Fear of Indigence prompts my Inclination — Nothing but the hope of disappointing it to seek for other Service — I feel no Reluctance in leaving a Country I had but adopted — for she has treated her own Sons with unbecoming Severity — Nor any Regret but for leaving you & those Officers I esteem — What then but the Want of a Subsistance, the daily Decay of a scanty Fortune is obliged often to repair, can induce me to take this step? The Apprehensions of swelling the Number of the unfortunate which a Reduction or general Dismission may create amongst us — These are y<sup>e</sup> coercive Motives — I have all that Regard for Col<sup>o</sup> Washington he can possibly expect, & it would be easy for him to carry me through the World was I one of the Number he'd choose to accompany him, & on whom he'd bestow the Assurance of, Bread — I only aim at such Certainty that the Malice of Fortune, or the Caprice of People we have to deal with could not affect — this is Affluence to me — & here centers all my Ambition — I aim

not at Riches but Freedom — nor value <sup>I</sup> the one but as it helps me to the other — It renders me independent — that Share of Independence I mean consistent with a Soldier's Character — I flatter myself your Reflections will square with mine & I hope for your Approbation — I trust to the Good Nature I have often observ<sup>d</sup> in you, to apologise for the Freedom I take — I hope speedily the honour of a Line from your <sup>hand</sup> permission to wait on you — I rest in Confidence Give me Liberty to subscribe mys<sup>t</sup>  
with great Regard

S<sup>t</sup>Y<sup>r</sup> mo<sup>o</sup> ob<sup>t</sup> hbl<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>JN<sup>o</sup> HALL

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FROM GEORGE WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

LONDON Dec<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1757 —

DEAR SIR

I arrived here the 25<sup>th</sup> of last month, since which there has not been an Opportunity to America, And now to the conveyance so uncertain that I hope you'll excuse this short Epistle, and permit me good Sir to acquaint you that our applicacions remain doubtfull, And that its difficult to have a hearing by reason the great ones are so much taken up with affairs of much greater consequence.

The Parliament met the 1<sup>st</sup> of this instant, and Unanimously concurred in very Loyal Addresses, and with a firm Resolution to Aid the Victorious King of Prussia who has Surpassed all Expectation

and I hope yett will give the French a more definitive stroke.

There has been a Court of Enquiry on the late Secret Expedition and the other day a Court Martial fixed to try Gen<sup>l</sup> M——t<sup>1</sup> &c. In short it ingrosses the whole Legislature, so that those in America are not thought of. But its suggested by some that there will be great alteration there and that L<sup>d</sup> Geo. Sackvile may be expected, but this is a Secret, — The Duke has certainly Resign'd, S<sup>t</sup> John Legonier and two more appointed Field Marshals, and the former created an Irish Peer.

The Parliament will Adjourn for the Holydays, when I shall go with M<sup>t</sup> Fairfax into Kent, and afterwards to Yorkshire where I shall tarry till the approach of the Spring, in which time if you have any other Commands it will give me pleasure to Execute them.

When matters are more Ripe, I will take time to give you a particular Acc<sup>t</sup> till when I remain with the greatest Esteem

Dear Sir

Your Affect and very humble  
Serv<sup>t</sup>

G. W. FAIRFAX

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<sup>1</sup> Referring, probably, to the expedition against Rochefort, which failed through the irresolution of Sir John Mordaunt.

FROM ALEXANDER BOYD, ESQ.

FORT LOUDOUN Decem<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1757

SIR

Inclosed is an Account of Monthly Disburs<sup>ts</sup> from January 1<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup> made by me & settled with the old Co<sup>m</sup>ittee which I humbly conceive will answer the End required in Ballancing my Acco<sup>s</sup> on your Book: The Vouchers are left in M<sup>r</sup> Palmer's hands at Williamsbg.

Agreeable to your Instructions to Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart I have sent by him Your Subsistence to Jan<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1758. I have also paid off the Troops to Novem<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> and shall pay them again at the Conclusion of this month, as His Honor was so good as to let me have a Fund sufficient for Four Months.

I shall write to Major Lewis for Officers to attend me at Staunton on the 10<sup>th</sup> of next month.

I am heartily sorry to hear of your being so greatly Indispos'd; I sincerely wish for your speedy Recovery

With profound Esteem I am

Your most Obedient hum<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

ALEXANDER BOYD—

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FROM WILLIAM HENRY FAIRFAX, ESQ.

SIR/

As you shewed your Desire for my Welfare by your kind Recommendation to Cap<sup>t</sup> Cunningham; I think it necessary to apologize for not acquainting you sooner with my Reception and Situation here.

— I was kindly received by Lord Loudoun, but as I was in daily Expectations of joining some Regiment either as a Volunteer or commissioned Officer, I was willing to acquaint you with my being well received & well settled at the same time. My being well settled was chiefly owing to Cap<sup>t</sup> Cunningham. For after delivering my Letters to his Lordship; I intended to have returned to Virginia & serve in your Reg<sup>t</sup> till his Lordship should think proper to give me a Commission. At this time Cap<sup>t</sup> Cunningham was so ill that I could not see him. But when I delivered him your Letter, & acquainted him with my Intentions, he insisted so strongly upon my continuing with the Forces here; that I immediately laid aside all thoughts of returning to Virginia then; & determined <sup>to do</sup> nothing without his Advice, while I continued near him. I accordingly went up a Volunteer to the 44<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> was then encamped at Albany. When I arrived there I was informed that about 100 Volunteers were at that time following the Army here; many of them very well recommended either by Service or Interest, who must all have been provided for before me had I waited till a Commission was given me. — This made me embrace the first Opportunity of purchasing; w<sup>ch</sup> happened in a few Days after my Arrival at Albany by a Vacancy in the 28<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> to w<sup>ch</sup> Lord Loudoun very willingly consented. — I am now waiting here for Orders when to join the Reg<sup>t</sup> (w<sup>ch</sup> is at Beausejour) or to go on any other Duty. My commission cost 200<sup>l</sup> Sterling w<sup>ch</sup> is the settled Price here & 100<sup>l</sup> more for a Lieutenancy, unless by a private Bargain. — I imagine, Sir, that

the Vacancy occasioned by my Resignation would be filled up in Consequence of Cap<sup>t</sup> Cunningham's Letter to you after my Arrival here. Which was the reason of my not sending a formal Resignation. — I am sorry to have received a Commission in a Reg<sup>t</sup> for w<sup>ch</sup> I have done no Service. — However my being appointed will save the Expence of an Officer during the time I had Rank in the Reg<sup>t</sup> — I have been with Major Livingston very much since his Arrival in these Parts; who desired me to acquaint you with his being here. He went with me up to Albany; where he was with my Lord Loudoun; who examined him very particularly about the Number, Pay Cloathing &c of the Forces in the Pay of the Southern Colonies. He talks much in favour of the Virginia Reg<sup>t</sup> in all Companies, & sometimes makes Comparisons between them & the Reg<sup>ts</sup> here, disadvantageous to the latter. —

I am, Sir,

Your much obliged

humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

WILL<sup>M</sup> H<sup>Y</sup> FAIRFAX.

NEW-YORK  
Dec<sup>r</sup> the 9<sup>th</sup> 1757

Col<sup>o</sup> Cunningham is now recovered.

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FROM GEORGE MASON, ESQ.

DOGUES NECK 4<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

The Bearer (my Cousin French Mason) waits on You with an Acc<sup>t</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> from Cap<sup>t</sup> Trent, amount-

ing to £165.. 12.. 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> as I have an imediate call for a pretty large Sum will particularly oblige Me in Sending the Cash  $\text{P}$  this Bearer; who will give a Rec<sup>t</sup> for what he receives — if you happen not to have the Cash at Home, I must beg the favour of You to order it for Me by the first safe Hand from Winchester. I intended to have waited on You myself this Day or To-morrow, with this Acc<sup>t</sup> but am prevented by an Express this Morning from Chappanamsic, to acquaint Me that my Sister Selden (who has been ill a long time) is now given over by her physician, & not expected to live Many Hours, & I am just setting off upon the Melancholly Errand of taking my last Leave of her! —

I hope You will comply with the Opinion & Advice of all Your Friends, & not risque a Journey to Winchester till a more favourable Season of the Year, or a better State of Health, will permit You to do it with Safety; & give Me Leave Sir to mention another Consideration, which I am sure will have Weight with You — in attempting to attend the Duty of Your Post at a Season of the Year when there is no Room to expect an Alarm; or anything extraordinary to require Your Presence, You will, in all probability, bring on a Relapse, & render Yourself incapable of Serving the public at a time when there may be the utmost Occasion; & there is nothing more certain than that a Gentleman in Your Station owes the Care of his Health & Life not only to Himself & his Friends, but to his Country — If You continue any time at Mount Vernon, I will do myself the pleasure of spending a Day or two with You very soon

I am w<sup>th</sup> Mrs. Mason's Comp<sup>s</sup> & my own to Y<sup>r</sup> Brother, his Lady, & Y<sup>r</sup>self

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> affect<sup>e</sup> h<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

G. MASON

P. S. You will be pleased to return the Acc<sup>t</sup> <sup>of</sup> the Bearer; for I have not any Copy of it; & if it's necessary for you [to] take it in, I will enter it in our Books & send it [to] you again —

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FROM ROBERT CARTER NICHOLAS, ESQ.

WILLIAMSBURG 5<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Kenzie ~~had~~<sup>handed</sup> me y<sup>r</sup> Fr, which inclosed Sundry Papers relating to y<sup>r</sup> Dispute with M<sup>r</sup> Strother.<sup>2</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Power, poor Man, is gone from Home to try for the Recovery of his Health, which I fear will never be restored to him. M<sup>r</sup> Wythe is also out of Town, so that I can't with any Exactness say when we shall have an Opportunity of giving an Award; however I'll get it done so soon as I can. I am very glad to hear of y<sup>r</sup> Recovery from so dangerous an Illness. If you've any good News twou'd be kind to tell it me; The Gov<sup>r</sup> & his Family it is Thought will embark on Saturday next. I wish you many happy Years & am D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> most ob<sup>t</sup> h<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

RO. C. NICHOLAS

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<sup>1</sup> Handed.

<sup>2</sup> In regard to land. See letter from Anthony Strother, May 18, 1760.

FROM THE HONORABLE JOHN BLAIR.<sup>1</sup>W<sup>MS</sup>: BURG Jan<sup>r</sup> 25. 1758.

SIR,

We had a Council here yesterday in which was considered a letter from Col. Clement Read of Lunenburg, advising his intelligence from an Indian Harbinger, that a large body of Indians to the number of 7 or 800, were on their march 5 days behind him to our assistance, and would take his house in their way to Fort Loudoun, notwithstanding the directions given by Col. Atkins for another route thro' Augusta. The Council do not suppose their number can be so large as Col. Atkins had directed their coming in small parties; but whatever number comes to you, we hope you will be able to employ them in small parties, as may be judged by you most beneficial. I understood by the Gov<sup>r</sup> who sailed the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. that there was I think £1000 worth of Indian Goods for presents left with M<sup>r</sup> Gist who had directions from Col. Atkins for the proper disposal of them. I hope you will do all in your power for having it conducted in the best manner. I take the opportunity of M<sup>r</sup> Binn Clark of Loudon to give you this intelligence of their coming.

S<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>JOHN BLAIR Pres<sup>t</sup>.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> John Blair, President of the Council of Virginia, son of Archibald, and nephew of James Blair, D. D., President of William and Mary College, was born in Williamsburg, 1689, and died there November 5, 1771. He married Mary Munro, daughter of Rev. John Munro, and had two sons and five daughters. His eldest son, John Blair, was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court by Washington in September, 1789.

<sup>2</sup> From a copy.

FROM JOHN BAYLIS.<sup>1</sup>

SIR

I send you here Inclosed an Advertisement such as contains fewer Lines than the other you saw & answers my purpose equally as well.

I am not naturally Inclined to expose the Foibles of mankind because many of them happen in the course of my own Actions, but in this case I am too sensibly touched to content myself without giving to my Acquaintances a circumstantial acc<sup>t</sup> of the whole Affair — which must consequently expose those who were concerned in it as well as the Intolerable Insolence & cowardice of Alixand Woodrow, who has no way Left to contradict this Just Asspersion but by shewing the World to the contrary.

Your Observation in Regard to the Officers not being particularized was Just. Which you must Rember I gave up & confessed my error — & told you I would Rectify it But putting y<sup>r</sup> self in a passion & openly espousing the causes of the Officers before you knew whether they were Justly or unjustly charged — this I say accompanied with such Menacing Air to a Person whom you are sensible always preserved the greatest Regard for you was a little Imprudent and unjustifiable.

It's certain some of y<sup>r</sup> Officers behaved Ill if the following hints have the least connection with Truth.

I can prove the Soldiers who came to my Lodgings to Mob me said (upon my asking Questions)

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<sup>1</sup> Major John Baylis, of Prince William County, a member of the House of Assembly, 1768.

they had good Backers & that their Officers sent them. Which seem'd true to me — for in conversation with the Officers — after that I never heard a Soldier blamed for it nor no care was taken to punish them for their Insolence — till the Sheriff Complain'd to a Magistrate — who Ordered the Offending Soldiers to Goal for want of Security for future good behaviour.

Indeed Cap<sup>t</sup> Bullett behaved well — in everything but a Neglect of punishing the soldiers he Dispersed himself after I sent for him. Tho' he appeared Ready upon complaint made as aforesaid to put the Offenders under Military punishment

I can prove sundry ungentleman like Actions — as well as Words — droped from Some of y<sup>r</sup> Officers — which did not escape my Notice & Inteligence

Their abusing Lord Fairfax by setting Woodrow on & speaking disrespectfully of him — as well as Threat<sup>s</sup> his person — they must upon mature Deliberation condemn themselves for.

It was observed that one M<sup>r</sup> Cooper went from my Lodgings in the Night & got most Inhumanly Beaten by the soldiers for no other offence but that they thought it was I — so I was credibly Informed. This Sir is far from a circumstantial Acc<sup>t</sup> Which if delivered minutely would confirm as bad an opinion of the matter as I have.

I have in this narrow Detail confined myself to truth without exaggerating the matter — truly the Motive of these Lines is to gratify y<sup>r</sup> Request & keep up that good Harmony that usually subsisted between us — & I Hope that a few Hot & un-

garded words — from both sides — will not make  
the least <sup>breach in</sup> friendship between us.

Please favour me with a Line by the first opportunity intimating y<sup>r</sup> sentiments on the Matter. I am Sir with (the usual) Respect y<sup>r</sup> most Obed<sup>t</sup>

H<sup>ble</sup> Servant

JOHN BAYLIS

30<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1758

Whereas Alixander Woodrow under the encouragement & Immediate protection of a party of the Regimental Subaltern Officers — then at Winchester on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of December 1757 <sup>at night</sup> did challenge the subscriber to Fight a Duel

Therefore (to avoid prolixity) I take this short Method to Inform the World that I waited on the said Alixander Woodrow next Morning with my sword & Pistol's in order to give or take satisfaction conformable to the Punctilio's of Honour But was surprized to find he would not fight & even denyed he had ever challenged me. From this I hope the Judicious part of the World will allow me the Liberty to say without censure — that the said Alixander Woodrow is an Arrant coward — & has no way Left to wipe off the Odium but to Re-assume the Challenge first given — & carry it to a necessary Length to Retrieve his Honour.

28<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> 1758

JOHN BAYLIS

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FROM CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER GIST.

WINCHESTER Febu<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1758

D SIR

Yours of the 31<sup>th</sup> Ultimo I rec<sup>d</sup> this day, am very much Oblig'd to you <sup>for</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Indians being

on their March, Some flying report we had before which few Credited, your Account is all we have for certain as yet,

I have Made up the Acc<sup>ts</sup> for the last year and Sent them down by M<sup>r</sup> Cromwell with a Return of all the goods on hand to the Last day December last. very little has been Disposed of Since. Blankets guns and Ammunition is none except 12 guns in the last cargo and they very bad. but as You are going to Williamsburg you will see the Returns with President Blair, you will then be a Judge what may be Nessary for the ensuing Season

As to the Price of Goods left in my hands by M<sup>r</sup> Atkin I cant Say, what the Amount May be, but I think I Could have bought as Much and as good for £300 — if the Governor Says they are worth £1000 it may be so, I have renderd the Acc<sup>ts</sup> where they are and how Disposed of to the President. Inclos'd is my Acc<sup>t</sup> for Recruiting I have Sent Certificate of Jacob Sowers omitted in My Acc<sup>ts</sup> Sent please to get it for the Poor Man

Pray Excuse hast I am with the Kindest Wishes for your helth

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Hum<sup>le</sup> &

Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

CHRIS<sup>T</sup> GIST

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 FROM THE HONORABLE JOHN BLAIR.

 W<sup>MS</sup>BURGH Feb: 5<sup>th</sup> 1758.

SIR

Your two Letters of 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Ult. were bro<sup>u</sup>ght to me by yo: Express, on Friday afternoon; by whom, being desirous to consult, I sent them to M: Nelson immediately (his horse & he being well able, he said, to go on) but he & M: Secretary happening to be out of Town, I did not get them back till this afternoon, with their Advice.

As to your Several Reasons for leave to come hither we think them very cogent; and therefore, as I apprehend no damage can be expected to arise from it, and strong reasons for admitting it, You have my Leave to come to Williamsburgh for the Purposes mention'd in yo: first.

As to the contents of your Second, expressing yo: concern at such a Number of Indians coming to us, at such an unseasonable Time; we wish the Spring had been advanced first, & y<sup>e</sup> rigour of Winter over, before they came; but as Col Read in his of the 3<sup>d</sup> Ult. says that a Runner was come to him with the News of 7 or 800 of them being but five days march behind him, and we have <sup>yet no</sup> certain Intelligence of them, I see no dependance on it. Once M: Adam Dickinson from Augusta who came to me the 28<sup>th</sup> Ult for some Arms & Ammunition for his son John, Captain of a Company of Rangers, told me he heard that 600 were at Col. Reads, and that they were going to my Lord Loudoun, but that afterw<sup>ds</sup> he heard it was a Company of 40 or 50 only, & that the

rest were behind; of which however we have no certainty. On the Report of their going to my Lord, Sir John S<sup>t</sup> Clair seem'd pleased, & said my Lord would make them wellcome; and by M<sup>r</sup> Nelson's advice I have writ, by that M<sup>r</sup> Dickinson, to M<sup>r</sup> Gist (as I intended to write to you) to encourage the Indians (of any number) to go to my Lord, who would receive & reward them well: and I desire you will press it upon him. But we are much surprised to hear that M<sup>r</sup> Gist is in no wise prepared to receive them, as our late Gov<sup>t</sup> told us that he had a £1000, pounds worth in Indian Goods left in his hands for such purpose. I desire a particular Acc<sup>t</sup> of what he has. We do not imagine their number will be any thing near so large as talkt of, and I hope they will not come this good while yet, unless they are going to my Lord. They are said to be Creeks & Cherokees together.

Col Read represented his want of Ammunition in the Magazine he built last year, to comply with Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis's Orders to the severall Captains under him. Whereupon by advice of the Council I sent up to the Glebe  $\bar{a}$ s Osburns 6 Bar<sup>ls</sup> of Powder ten Boxes of Shot 200<sup>lb</sup> w<sup>t</sup> in Each, making 2 Ton of Shot, w<sup>ch</sup> is more than sufficient for the Powder, but he wanted Shot for the Powder he had by him. I likewise sent up to Cap<sup>t</sup> Dickinson 100  $\bar{t}$ b of Powder & 200  $\bar{t}$ b of Lead to supply his Company, and also ten Muskets w<sup>th</sup> Bayonets & Cartouches, 20 Swords, 200 Gunflints, & 8 Trading Kettles for their Use.

We have hired two Transports to bring back our Two Companys from S<sup>c</sup> Carolina & are providing a

large quantity of Bread & Flower to be sold there to pay off their Arrears to their coming away, & they are to be landed at Fredericksburgh.

I have not [to] add, but my hearty wishes for your perfect recovery, and to assure you that I am

Sir

Yo<sup>r</sup> most h<sup>ble</sup> Servant

JOHN BLAIR, P.

We hear Col<sup>o</sup> Young  
has got his Co<sup>m</sup>mission come  
for this Government —

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FROM ROBERT CARTER NICHOLAS, ESQ.

WILLIAMSBURG 6<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR,

I have heard of Letters from the dead, but never had the Pleasure of receiving one, till your agreeable Favour came to Hand the other Day. It was reported here that Col<sup>o</sup> Washington was dead: as you are still alive, I must own myself obliged to the Author of that Report, as well because my Pleasure was greatly increased upon hearing it contradicted, as because I enjoy the additional Satisfaction of Reflecting upon the Concern, which your Friends shew'd on the Occasion; & this you'll allow near the most proper Time to judge of their Sincerity. I wish the agreeable News you kindly imparted may prove true, but I'm apt to think that the two Reports were blended together by some bungling Re-

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tailer of News. We have Nothing here worth communicating. I am with the greatest Sincerity

Y<sup>r</sup>: aff<sup>te</sup>: h<sup>ble</sup>: Ser<sup>t</sup>:

Ro. C NICHOLAS —

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FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.

N. LONDON Feb<sup>r</sup>: 11<sup>th</sup>: 1758

DEAR SIR

I wrote you by the last Post to which must now Chiefly Refer you, this being just to beg your Pardon for the freedom I have taken to direct a small Box to you for my Brother. this Box will be forwarded to you by M<sup>r</sup>: William Coxe of Phil<sup>a</sup>: who will at the desire of M<sup>r</sup>: Robinson send you a Line acquainting you by what Oppertunity & which way it is sent, if we have any thing new I shall take Care to advise you & am with great Respect

Dear Sir

Your Very Obed<sup>t</sup>: Serv<sup>t</sup>:

JOS CHEW

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN HALL.

SUFFOLK IN VIRG<sup>a</sup>: Feb<sup>r</sup>: 14<sup>th</sup>: 1758

D<sup>R</sup>: SIR/

I have y<sup>r</sup>: acceptable fav<sup>r</sup>: from M<sup>t</sup>: Vernon — & I sincerely rejoyce at y<sup>r</sup>: beginning to master the Indisposition M<sup>t</sup>: Boyd acquaints me you have long labour'd under — I hope to meet you perfectly recover'd, I shall impatiently wish to hear of y<sup>r</sup>: being at W<sup>ms</sup>:burgh —

Will you excuse the Liberty of intruding a Subject not so agreeable as many others — I've this <sup>day</sup> received a L<sup>r</sup> from Col. Gage — & There cite <sup>^</sup> his happy Paragr<sup>h</sup>. | =I must acquaint you of a Resolution lately taken to raise a Reg<sup>t</sup>— of light Infantry under my command & in w<sup>ch</sup> Corps L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun has appointed you a Lieu<sup>t</sup> | with a Grace truly becoming that G<sup>n</sup> he waves the honour of the Obligation & throws it on another — & dont think I flatter you when I say to the more happy Influence of a third Person I owe my present Rise — him I look upon as my Patron & Benefactor — Accept the kind Wishes of a heart replete with Gratitude for ev'ry future blessing — I am in great haste to send off my recruits — heres a Capt. 3 Subs & recruiting Partys from this new C[orps] here now moving to this Place —

I am

Y<sup>s</sup> sincerely

J<sup>N</sup><sup>o</sup> HALL

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FROM NATHANIEL THOMPSON.<sup>1</sup>

SIR

I am very sorry that the Lies of Maj<sup>r</sup> Baylis should give much Uneasiness to You or make You look upon Officers who are Willing to abide (in Respect of that Affair) by the severest Tryal in a disadvantageous Light. Maj<sup>r</sup> Baylis has falsly aspersed our Character — but he has not prov'd it nor can he —

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<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant in the Virginia regiment, commissioned July 24, 1757.

He has sayd it, but where? in Prince William, the County in which he lives where he never expects to see one of the Persons that he has accused & where there is no one to contradict him. We did not imagine that You or the World would have believed him & therefore we did intend to have made ourselves easy by taking private Satisfaction. But we now think it incumbent on us to satisfy the Publick tho' we can't well find out the best Method. I talked with M<sup>r</sup>. Keith who saw his Advertisement & he says there is Nothing in it against the Officers that will bear an Action at Law but he says he believes he may be indicted for a Libel provided we can get one of them. We hear that you have one which we hope You will keep & let us have—I have wrote Baylis my Sentiments of the Matter & withal demanded a Copy of his Advertisement which I think he cannot well refuse—for if he does the World must readily conceive that he has either advanced or affirmed a Falsity or that he is afraid to abide by the Truth. I shall be extremely obliged to You for Y<sup>r</sup>. Advice in this Affair as soon as possible. Believe me, Sir, I know no Reason why he should say or even conjecture that I have behaved amiss. I believe that it will not hurt y<sup>r</sup>. Interest as a Candidate for there are too many Witnesses for it to gain Credit in this County. We can easily I think acquit ourselves to Y<sup>r</sup>. Satisfaction for there were Men enough by, Friends to Baylis & Strangers to us & therefore if they are prejudiced at all it must be in Favour of Baylis & I am much mistaken if those very Persons will not acquit us of any Thing to our Discredit—

I am very sorry to hear that Y<sup>r</sup> Indisposition continues — I am, my dear Colonel,

Y<sup>r</sup> sincere Friend & very h<sup>le</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

NATH<sup>L</sup> THOMPSON —

FORT LOUDOUN  
February the 20<sup>th</sup> 1758 —

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FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

FORT LOUDOUN February y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> 1758

SIR

I have had the Happiness of Seeing the Letter You wrote, To Doctor Craig, and am Sorry to hear of your being so Much Indisposed in <sup>Your</sup> Health, and I must own that I am at Present much disturbed in my mind by Maj<sup>r</sup> Baylist who Has blasted my Character in A most Cruel manner, Without the least reason, It's true when Maj<sup>r</sup> Baylist was Last in Town there Was some disturbance between Him and M<sup>r</sup> Fells, Maj<sup>r</sup> Baylist and I never had any Words to gather, which I have Sufficient proff of, I have Wrote to Maj<sup>r</sup> Baylist Concerning it, and Shall Soon Convince him that I am not the Man he takes me to be — I deny the Name of a Rioter or a Coward, Which I hope to Have liberty to get Satisfaction, and you Need not to fear but I will Clear it up with Honour, and with Shame to him,

Concerning the work at Fort Loudoun has gone on tolerable Well in your Absence the third Barrack is Intirely Coverd In, and the Last one now a framing in Order to raise, the Parapet on the Last Curtain is up, the Last Bastion Is Layd Over with logs and

two of the amburiers done and now is about the other four, we have done all the joyners Work in the Second Barrack, We are in Great want of a Barrel of Double tens for the last Barrack we not having One, Our Stone Masons has been Sick, Ever Since you have been Away, and our Stone Work is much Behind hand, The well has been allmost full of Water But now is Cleared and <sup>they</sup> are at Work in it AGain And is near Ninety foot deep, I Cant Say that there is any Likelyhood of Any Spring, We are almost out of Iron and plank, and am Afraid I shall find it Very difficult to be Supply'd without a Small quantity of money to pay them off the old arrears I have advanced all the money I Can possibly Spare,

The Black Smiths belonging to the publick <sup>work</sup> has behav'd Extreamly well, I Should Send you the particulars of The Work they have done but being in Haste and my Books not being Settled,

S<sup>r</sup> I am your most Humb<sup>e</sup>

Serv<sup>t</sup>

CH<sup>s</sup> SMITH

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FROM MAJOR JOHN SMITH.<sup>1</sup>

SIR

I am just returned from my Exile & have but a Short time to write to you (being desirous to see my Family after so long a Captivity) and therefore shall write as brief as I can. I was Sir Ordered by my

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<sup>1</sup> Author of the "wild scheme" mentioned by Colonel Stanwix. (See his letter of March 10, *post.*) Major Smith's scheme was for the reduction of the enemy on the Ohio and the planning of a forced march on Detroit. Cf. Washington to Stanwix, March 4, 1758.

Lord Loudoun to wait on Col<sup>o</sup> Stannacks whose Orders is that I should Consult with you concerning the defence of this Colony and not meeting with you at Winchester desire you'l meet me at Augusta Court-house or at Williamsburgh by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this Instant (where I am Obliged to be) to pursue the above Orders. Or if you shall be so indisposed that you could not Attend desire you'l send one of your Officers according to the Time mentioned above to Consult the same I should have been glad to see you myself but being so long from my Family am very Desirous to see them & therefore I can only at this Time subscribe my Self

S<sup>r</sup>Y<sup>r</sup> very Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>JN<sup>o</sup> SMITHWINCHESTER 2<sup>d</sup> M<sup>o</sup> 1758

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FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQ.

NEW YORK 1<sup>st</sup> March 1758

DEAR SIR/

Inclosed is a Letter from my friend Joseph Chew of New London which he Desires me to forward to you, he has also sent me a Trunk for his Brother Coleby in your Regiment, and Desires I will forward it to some Gen<sup>l</sup> in Philadelphia, who will send it from thence to your Care, as M<sup>r</sup> Chew is noted for being a Most Obliging person in things of this sort and seems Very Desirous his Brother should get the Trunk, I must beg you'l Excuse his taken the Liberty of Troubling you about it, I shall send it to

morrow by the Stage Boat to the Care of M<sup>r</sup> William Coxe in Philad<sup>a</sup> and Desire him to write you a Line to Acquaint you by whom or what way he sends it from thence.

No Doubt you are Acquainted with the Expedition under the Direction of Lord How he has 2500 or 3000 picked men given him to make an Attack on Ticonderoga, we have no Acc<sup>t</sup> of his having Marched from Albany, but as we have had fine Weather for this week past make no Doubt he is Marched and Dare Say every thing will be Done on his part Lord Loudoun has lately met the New England Governors at Hartford in Connecticut, and from thence has gone on to Boston, what to do there the Lord knows —

An Expedition your Way under the Command of General Webb is talked of, and M<sup>r</sup> Byrd is gone to South Carolina & so to the Cherokee Indians to get a number of them to Joyne us.

Inclosed you have a Supplement to our News paper giving the good Acc<sup>ts</sup> of the Brave King of Prussia.<sup>1</sup>

M<sup>rs</sup> Robinson & her Little Boys are Very Well, She Desires her Comp<sup>ts</sup> to you. I beg you Will Remember me to Cap<sup>t</sup> Mercer, and believe me to be

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> Aff<sup>l</sup> H<sup>l</sup> Se<sup>r</sup>

BEV : ROBINSON

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<sup>1</sup> The king at the head of an army of not more than 25,000 men utterly routed nearly 40,000 French and nearly 20,000 German troops on November 5, 1757. — LECKY.

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FROM THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT BLAIR.

W<sup>MS</sup> BURG March 10<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

The Bearer James Holloway is a Soldier in your Regiment sent from York County & under cap<sup>t</sup> Lewis at Patterson's Fort, but being very infirm got a Furlow from his Captain for 3 Months, w<sup>ch</sup> was continued by the Governor for 2 more. I thought of discharging him, but waited in hopes of seeing you to do it. He says he has received but 2 months pay, if so there is 6. mos. pay due to him & better. He now applies for a discharge for his brother John & himself, on consideration of his having enlisted two men before Mr. Smith a justice of York which he will shew you and of his delivering them to you at his own Expen<sup>c</sup>e, which I think may be accepted, as their Ancient Father wants John's assistance & James can be of no use to you. But as he could not travel with them with <sup>out</sup> money & he had been at ab<sup>t</sup> 40<sup>s</sup> Expen<sup>c</sup>e upon them, I have furnished him with £5. from the Treasury, w<sup>ch</sup> you will deduct from their wages; unless you think any part of it due to him for enlisting one in his room who I am persuaded you would have discharged as useless. One of them John Carter says he has 10. Guineas due to him from Capt<sup>n</sup> Whelden of a ship at Holts, w<sup>ch</sup> as he is enter'd into his Majesty's service he hopes the Captain will be obliged to pay him; if you can be of any service to him in it, it will be kind, & help to equip him with Linnen &c<sup>a</sup>. By him I send you Letter of the 8. Inst. but shall write again on the

subject lest that should miscarry I give him too a Letter for one George Speake an Ensign in your Regiment that came to me t'other day by an Express from Lord Loudoun — I heartily wish you health & am Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> hble. Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAIR, P.<sup>1</sup>

James tells me he knows of 5 Deserters in Northumberland w<sup>ch</sup> with Assistance he could take up. & believes he could enlist some more men if he had direction for it.

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FROM COLONEL STANWIX.

LANCASTER, 10<sup>th</sup> March 1758.

DEAR SIR

I was on the 8<sup>th</sup> Favour'd with your obliging and find your judgment tally w<sup>th</sup> Lord Loudouns & mine in regard to Major Smiths wild schem. Shall not trouble you with a long letter upon it, but write upon a Theme much more interesting w<sup>ch</sup> is the State of your health w<sup>ch</sup> I am much concern'd to hear is in so bad a Condition as to put you upon resigning your Command w<sup>ch</sup> I am very sure will not be so well filled for the Interest to the Country in General and for my own wishes in particular, but be that as it may no one can more ardently wish for every thing that may be agreeable to you. Am sorry to tell you that I hear that Lord Loudoun is to go home & Lord George Sackville to command in his room with many other alterations, that a very large fleet is ex-

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<sup>1</sup> President of the Council, now acting as Governor.

pected & seven Thousand men, As I have not seen any papers since the arrival of a Twenty Gun ship at New York with despatches, can only give you an imperfect sketch of what is talk'd on and beg you will believe that I am very truly D<sup>r</sup> Sir, your most Obed. humbl. serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN STANWIX

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FROM THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT BLAIR.

WILLIAMSBURG April y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR/

Friday afternoon I received yours of the Second Instant,<sup>1</sup> with a Letter from Governor Denny and

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<sup>1</sup> To the President : written on the Road to Winchester, April 2, 1758. —

“HONBLE SIR,—The Bearer, unfortunately pursuing me instead of continuing on from Fredericksburgh (when he heard that I had passed that place in my way to Alexandria) is the cause of the enclosed being detained so long from your Honor. The business which carried me by Alexandria was partly of a public and partly of a private nature, and I embrace this opportunity of accomplishing both, doubting whether another might offer before I should be obliged to take the field.

The enclosed papers contain matters of a most important and interesting nature. The subject is exquisitely handled; for which reason, I shall urge nothing more on it, than to recommend in the most pressing and submissive manner, the necessity of providing for the reception of our Indian friends. The consequence of inviting these people to our assistance,—and their finding us so unprepared when they come, may be destructive of our interests; it being the cause already of much murmuring and discontent. These people are too sensible of their importance to be put off with vague promises. I do not know at whose expense those numerous parties of Indians are to be furnished; whether at the charge of the southern colonies in general or the government in particular? But of this I am fully satisfied that, until such time as the Indian agent or some other person is invested with power and the means also of laying in suitable necessaries for them we shall never be in a condition either of fitting them for war or giving them *content*. For, although much money hath been laid out for goods to present them with, yet those presents have been so injudiciously chosen that when they have been offered to the Indians, they have laughed at and refused them. I have no other motive for representing this matter so freely to your Honor, than as the Assembly are about to sit, these inconveniences, if they should appear such, being fully represented may be redressed. I have now Sir to apologize for my paper &c., The Bearer overtook me on the road within less than a days ride of Winchester; and being unwilling to detain the enclosed put into the first house to dispatch him, which was

the Speech of the Indian King, as also Captain Bullets Letters, and the Proceedings of Officers held at Fort Loudoun, which I laid before the Council next Morning, who concur in the Opinion of the Officers above for the Reason by them given, and for the certain Intelligence that has lately been received of many Murders lately been committed upon our Frontiers by those Western Indians. As to the Supplys you write for, I have sent up above Seven Hundred Pounds in Indian Goods that Mr. Rutherford Purchased here by my Direction and are to be Landed at Falmouth. I had sent Mr. Gist Three Hundred Pounds to Purchase Necessaries for the Indians by Mr. Cromwell besides paying what was then Due, about 500 Pounds, but finding that would not be Sufficient for such Numbers as I hear are coming, I have sent him by Mr. Rutherford 500 Pounds more to Purchase Arms, and Such Things as are not to be got here, and if any more is wanting you will send me Word, for I would not starve the Cause, or have the Indians Disobliged if Possible to avoid it. I am unlookily saiz'd with an Ague and Fevor,<sup>1</sup> but hope you are in good Health. I have not to add but that I am Sir, your most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAIR, P.

P. S. As the Assembly intend to garrison the Forts with Drafts from the Militia I hope you will keep your Out Parties in a readiness to rendesvous on short Notice.

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unprovided with paper, except such as could be taken from a Book; and such is made use of by your Honor's most obedient servant,—G. W." The foregoing is from Washington's Manuscript Record Book.

<sup>1</sup> President Blair is not to be held responsible for this spelling. The letter is in the handwriting of his clerk.

FROM CAPTAIN JOHN BAKER.

PATTERSON'S April 10<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

Yesterday in the afternoon as M<sup>r</sup> Miller & 2 or 3 Countrymen more was riding from here to Jenkins's about 4 miles from this, they were fired at by Cocks & Lane who was lying under the fence, the Countrymen came in on a full gallop and inform'd me that they were fired on by some Indians. I immediately sent out Lieu<sup>t</sup> Weedon with a Command of Men who followed their Tracts till dark, returning home I sent Ensign Chew out again this morning to Reconnoiter on the other side the Mountain where he fell on their Tracts, and after pursuing them about 10 Miles he found a Beef that they had killed and cut out the Toungue and part of the hind quarters, he continued following them about a Mile farther and discovered a smoke in the hollow of a Mountain, Coming nigh perceived them Bacueing their Meet, they being acquipt every way like Indians and as he had followed their Tracts from pretty near the place where L<sup>t</sup> Weedon left them last night had great reason to believe they were Enemy / and immediately fired on them. Lane was killed Dead and Cocks mortally wounded, they brought to Bells Fort where he left him with a Serg<sup>t</sup> & [manuscript torn] Men, he confessed it was their own fault & blame know one else but themselves for the Accident.<sup>1</sup> I am Sir Your  $\overline{\text{mo}}$  ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. BAKER

<sup>1</sup> "Lane and Cox appeared to have been disguised as Indians, and it was under the impression they were such that Lieutenant Chew shot them." — Washington to President Blair, April 17, 1758.

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FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR.<sup>1</sup>

PHILADELPHIA April 13<sup>th</sup> 1758.

SIR,

Last night I received an Order from Brigadier General Forbes, to purchase some Match Coats and all the light arms I could get at this Place, to equip the Indians that are at Winchester, which I shall send from hence tomorrow. I have sent Mr. Gist £300. Virginia Currency, to supply them with any thing that he may find in Virginia. You may acquaint them that nothing in our power shall be wanting to accommodate them.

I am here still employed about Artillery and Laying in Stores of all kinds, that we may take the field as soon as possible, so soon as I am able to finish it I shall be with you, of which you will please to acquaint the Indians. — take care to Keep them in Spirits as much as you can, and give them all the encouragement you can to go out on Scouting Parties, and if possible to bring in one prisoner with each Party — You will please to let me know the Number of each Nation that is with you and what more are expected. I hope you have received the Express I sent to you about a week ago ; if he has fallen into the Enemy's hands it will be a great loss to us.

I must desire you will speak to my friend Charles Smith to prepare for me at Winchester, materials for building a couple of large Flats, so that we will have nothing to do but join them together and Caulk them ; They are for Cox's on Pottomack. I shall be

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<sup>1</sup> To Captain Bullet, or commanding officer at Winchester.

glad if You can get a few Barrels of tarr made near you. I beg my Express may not be detained. I am, Sir, your most obed<sup>t</sup> humb<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN S<sup>T</sup> CLAIR

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FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQ.

NEW YORK 16<sup>th</sup> Ap<sup>r</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR/Your favour of the 5<sup>th</sup> Instant came to hand last Night by y<sup>e</sup> Post, Inclosing a Letter for M<sup>r</sup> Richard Washington<sup>1</sup> in London w<sup>ch</sup> shall be

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<sup>1</sup> To Mr. Rich<sup>d</sup> Washington, London.

DEAR SIR, — Captain Whiting is arrived & my Letters by him are come to hand, but not the Goods: the latter I apprehend is in bad order as I understand the Captn. entered a protest immediately upon his arrival. The Locks and Hinges I fear are slight if I am to judge from their sizes and price. The sword p<sup>r</sup> Capt<sup>r</sup> Nicholson I have received.

The Inclosed is a Bill of Excha. for £100 Sterlg. 60 of w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Cash is received must go to the Credit of Lord Fairfax. Mr. Carlyle will send the others of the same Tenor and write fully on the matter. I lodged the other day £72 — 10<sup>s</sup> with Fielding Lewis Esq<sup>r</sup> to buy me a Bill of £50. and hope you will receive that also in a very short time as he had hopes of purchasing of M<sup>r</sup> Hunter upon Lyde of London.

You will perhaps think me a crazy fellow to be ordering and Countermanding Goods almost in a breath. It was but the 18<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup> from Williamsburg that I wrote you via Bristol, advising the arrival of my Goods pr. Captn. Dick & desiring you would desist sending me the China wrote for in a Letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> Jany. and in lieu thereof to send me a compleat sett of Horse Furniture I must here beg you will forbear sending either as I am now provided with the latter but dispatch the following things by the first ship bound to any part of Virginia (viz)

A Compleat hunting saddle & Bridle with two neat Saddle Cloths to cost 40/. the whole. — As much of y<sup>e</sup> best superfine Blue Cotton Velvet as will make a Coat Waistcoat & Breeches for a Tall Man with a fine silk button to suit it & all other necessary Trimmings & Linings together with Garters for the Breeches. — Six pair of the very neatest shoes (viz) 2 p<sup>r</sup> double Channel Pumps — 2 pair turned Ditto & 2 p<sup>r</sup> Stitched Shoes to be made by one Didsbury on Col<sup>o</sup> Beilars last but to be a little wider over the Instep. — Six pair Gloves, 3 p<sup>r</sup> of w<sup>ch</sup> to be proper for Riding & not to have stiff Tops, y<sup>e</sup> whole larger than y<sup>e</sup> middle size. —

I shoud. be extremely glad to have the above things in as soon as possible. If they go either to York or James River, Recommend the Package to Peyton Randolph Esq<sup>r</sup> Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup> Williamsburg and he will see that they are forwarded — This Letter is intended to go by the Packet from New York, and the Post is just setting out for that place which prevents my adding more than that I am Dear Sir, with great truth

taken care of and forwarded by the Earl of Halifax Packet, Captn Rand who it is imagined will sail soon.

The York Bill you Inclosed will over pay the postage of your Letter, there being no Charge paid on Letters sent from this by y<sup>e</sup> Packets to England, so that all y<sup>e</sup> Expence Attending your Letter is y<sup>e</sup> postage from Fort Loudoun here. S<sup>t</sup> Charles Hardy is off Louisburgh with 8 or 9 Sail of y<sup>e</sup> Line, & hope he will be able to prevent any succours getting into that place.

M<sup>rs</sup> Robinson & family are very well & Desire their Compt<sup>s</sup> to you as does M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Morris<sup>1</sup> and your Most Oblidg. Hble. Serv<sup>t</sup>

BEV : ROBINSON

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FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR.

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> April 20. 1758.

DEAR SIR, — I received your agreeable letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> by the return of the Express sent to Winchester; it is very acceptable news to General Forbes, Major Halkett and myself to hear you was so well as to be able to make the campaign with us.<sup>2</sup>

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and Sincerity y<sup>r</sup> most obed<sup>t</sup> & Affect. Hble. Serv<sup>t</sup> — G<sup>o</sup>. WASHINGTON/Winchester 5th April 1758/P. S. You are pleased to Dub me with a Title I have no Pretensions to — that is — Y<sup>e</sup> Honble. —

<sup>1</sup> Who as Mary Philipse, we remember, had held the heart of our Virginia colonel.

<sup>2</sup> Washington felt "a degree of satisfaction," as he expressed himself to Major Halket, upon the prospect of again meeting his old companions in arms. And he was happy to find also, writes Sparks, that his early and constant wishes were at last to be realized by a combined expedition to the Ohio. New energy had been recently infused in the British councils by Pitt's accession to the ministry. That statesman, continues the same historian, always guided by an enlarged policy, always friendly to the colonies, resolved on a vigorous prosecution of the war in America.

This letter goes by one Riker : I have not time to write to you so fully as I could choose ; but Mr. Rutherford is here ; I shall write to you more fully as he sets out in a day or two.

Be so good as to tell Mr. Gist that I rec'd. his letter last night, and have received orders from Genl. Forbes to provide every thing the Indians may want. I have sent to Winchester about 60 Fuzees w<sup>t</sup> 100 match coats, and am now about collecting 300 arms more with other Indian goods ; all which shall be sent from hence as soon as possible. The arms are good.

The bearer is in a great hurry to be gone so that I must conclude with saying that I am, D<sup>r</sup> Sir, Y<sup>r</sup> most obed<sup>t</sup>

JOHN ST CLAIR <sup>1</sup>

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FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL STEPHEN.

SIR, — I am this moment arrived, and find your orders to march which shall be Comply'd with ; tho' the President gave directions for refreshing the men and paying them off here. — As soon as the men are

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One of his first acts was a plan for the campaign of 1758, in which offensive operations were to be pursued throughout the frontiers. Colonel John Forbes, who had been Lord Loudoun's adjutant, was commissioned a brigadier-general and appointed to succeed him. He was directed to undertake a new expedition against Fort Duquesne. Washington, in a letter of March 10, 1758 [Ford's *Writings of Washington*, vol. ii. p. 6], had asked to be recommended to General Forbes in favorable terms, "not as a person, who would depend upon him for further recommendations to military preferment, for I have long conquered all such inclinations (and serve this campaign merely for the purpose of affording my best endeavors to bring matters to a conclusion), but as a person who would gladly be distinguished in some measure from the *common run* of provincial officers, as I understand there will be a motley herd of us."

<sup>1</sup> Sir John St. Clair was quartermaster-general of the combined army.

on their march I will come on, and hope the pleasure of seeing you Thursday night; in the mean time; I am with Respect Sir, your most ob<sup>t</sup> hub. Serv<sup>t</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN

FREDERICKSBURG April 22<sup>d</sup> 1758

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The Proceedings of a Council of Officers held at Fort Loudoun April 24<sup>th</sup> 1758. to consider whether it was most for the Interest of the Service or whether it was practicable to comply with the Instructions contained in a Letter from the President of Virginia to Col<sup>o</sup> Washington.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Col<sup>o</sup> George Washington, President

Capt <sup>n</sup> Lieu <sup>t</sup> Bullitt	} Members {	Lieut. Campbell
Lieut. King		Lieut. Buckner
Lieut. Thompson		Lieut. Smith
Lieut. Roy		Ensign Russell

1<sup>st</sup> That Part of the President's Letter in which he advises Col<sup>o</sup> Washington to incorporate part of the Officers and Non Commissioned Officers of his Regiment with the Second Regiment, and to take part of them into his was considered and it was unanimously agreed that the first Regiment would receive a greater Detriment thereby than the Second would gain an Advantage as the Officers (were they exchanged) would not have sufficient time to Discipline the new raised Regiment and our Non Commissioned Officers & Soldiers would with Reluctancy change their Officers to be Commanded by those they must be convinced were entirely ignorant of the Duty either of Officer or Centinel and it is also imagined that such a change would be look'd. on as an Imposition by the Officers who might be ordered into the Second Regiment.

2<sup>dly</sup> We considered the Abstract from Brigadier General Forbes, his Letter and find that the Performance of but a small part thereof can be in the power of the Commanding or other Officers of this Regiment for as our Troops cannot march (by express

Orders from the President) from the Places at which they are stationed 'till they are relieved by Militia it is impossible to assemble them so soon as the General desired ; for the time is past and no orders issued even for the Assembling of the Militia, nor for the same reason 'till we are relieved can we quit our Post to attempt clearing the Road nor do we know w<sup>th</sup> way the General intends to march as there are different Roads.

3<sup>dly</sup> We considered that part of the Letter in which he leaves a discretionary power in the Hands of Colonel Washington in draughting the Militia and we verily believe that were he to order out the Militia of the frontier Counties (who always have been taken out on every Immergency) it would be productive of an almost General Mutiny — besides the Disadvantage in case of an Invasion on the South-western Parts of the Colony as the Militia in those Counties would be present to assist the Militia that were ordered from the Interior Counties and in case he orders the Militia from the Lower Parts of the Country we think that they would be so long assembling and marching that Col<sup>o</sup> Washington might be blamed (if not by the Colony) by the General who desired the Companys of this Regiment to be at this Place by the 20th. of this Ins<sup>t</sup> tho' the Col<sup>o</sup> has received no orders about it 'till this day. Besides Col<sup>o</sup> Washington ought to have the County-Muster Rolls before it will be possible for him to make an Equitable Draught of the Militia to relieve the Garrisons nor can he (as he has not the Acts of Assembly, nor himself nor any of us know the Act past in June last) either call out or appoint such Officers as is there directed & as the President orders.

Upon the whole it appears to be an affair so interesting to the Colony ; so nice & of such importance for the service of His Majesty that (as it will take only three or four Days more to assemble the Militia) it is our unanimous opinion that it is more adviseable for the President or his Council to give Orders to the Militia and proper directions concerning those things that we have had in consideration than us to determine on them

G<sup>o</sup> WASHINGTON

THO<sup>s</sup> BULLITT  
JOHN CAMPBELL  
JOHN KING  
MORD<sup>t</sup> BUCKNER

NATH<sup>t</sup> THOMPSON  
CH<sup>s</sup> SMITH  
JA<sup>s</sup> ROY  
HENRY RUSSELL

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FROM LIEUTENANT BASSET, ENGR.

FORT FREDERICK 27<sup>th</sup> April 1758

SIR, — I am sent here by S<sup>t</sup> John S<sup>t</sup> Clair to repair the Roads &c on both sides of the Potowmack; to forward which service he told me he had Ordered 200 of the Virginia Troops to take Part at Enoch's: whenever this is done you will please to let me know & I shall be ready to attend them.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Shelby who is employed to buy Forrage, has contracted for Some Oats & Indian Corn to be delivered at Captn. Caton's on your side of the Potowmack: As it may be a Week or Ten Days before he can send for it & as he thinks it a dangerous Place, he desired I would mention it to you; being assured that, if you think it necessary, you will order a small Guard there from Patterson's Fort or elsewhere.

I am Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant

T. BASSET, *Engincer*

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FROM THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT BLAIR.

WMSBURGH May 3<sup>d</sup> 1758

SIR, — Col. Taylor, Col. Lee & Col. Geo. Mason have strongly recommend to me M<sup>r</sup> French Mason,<sup>1</sup> the Bearer, for an Ensign's Commission in your Regiment, which the late Promotions they hope will make room for, after your Volunteers. They assure

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<sup>1</sup> Probably the son of George Mason's uncle of the same name. — MISS ROWLAND.

me he is a young fellow of Integrity & Spirit, & has a small Fortune that might well support him in no despicable way; so it is not necessity, but a Zeal for his Country's Cause, draws him into the Field, where they are confident he will behave so as to merit approbation.

I told them I had yesterday by Jenkins sent you Six blank Commissions for that purpose, which you had promised to fill up w<sup>th</sup> a just regard to justice & the Rules of War; but as I hear you have only two Volunteers to provide, I should be glad if you could find room for this hopeful young man so powerfully recommended. I am Sir Your most obed<sup>t</sup> hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAIR

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FROM FRANCIS HALKETT, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

PHILADELPHIA 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1758.

DEAR SIR, — General Forbes having information that a party of our Catawbias are just return'd to Winchester, from a Scout to the Ohio, and have brought in with them several Prisoners and Scalps, — as the General is extremely desirous of knowing the condition of Fort Duquesne, & the situation of the Enemy's strength in these parts, he has ordered me to acquaint you, that if the Intelligence the Prisoners give is so distinck, and of such consequence, as to be of service to the General, that you will take the first opportunity to send them to Philadelphia — and to facilitate their Conveyance, you will send an open letter to the Commanding Officers at the dif-

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<sup>1</sup> Brigade Major to General Forbes.

ferent Posts upon their Route, that they are to forward them with an escort from Post to Post You will at the same time be pleased to send the General any information that you have taken from the Prisoners.<sup>1</sup>

Their is a Treaty on foot just now between the Shawanees, the Delawares and the people of this province, and he is very sorry to learn that several of the Cherokees have taken into their heads to ramble this way, that several of them are come to Carlisle, and he is just now informed that some of them are coming into this Town. The General therefore desires that you will be at particular pains to prevent any more of them coming this way, and that they may be employed as much as possible in Scouting parties, to cover our Posts, and Magazines & Keep the frontiers of the Country quiet; & as the most effectual Route for that purpose, he would recommend to you, the sending of them out by *Rays Town*, & *Franks Town*, to *long Island* in the West branch of the Susquhanna, and examine all the Paths leading to wards the Ohio.

The General is very much alarmed with a letter which he has this moment Received, with an Account that the Raven (a Cherokee Captain) and 30 of his men, having returned to their own Country much displeas'd with the English, he therefore must press it in the warmest manner that the utmost attention be paid by every body under your Command

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<sup>1</sup> The reply from Washington was that nothing of this kind had occurred this year, nor had any prisoners been taken, nor scalps, except two taken near Fort Duquesne by the young warrior, Ucahula.

towards keeping the Indians in a good disposition, & that all means be used in bringing back the Raven & those Indians who have Return home.<sup>1</sup>

The General is just now employed in buying all the strouds, and goods that will be necessary to make in presents to the Indians & has laid an Embargo upon every thing in this Town that will be of service in that way.

Provided that the Catawbias are not disposed to part with their Prisoners, you are not to send them, but if they can be procured without giving umbrage, the General will be very desirous of seeing them. I am with great regard, Dear Washington, Your most obedient & most humble Servant

FRANCIS HALKETT

P. S.— You will please for the future, to send all your Returns to me at Philadelphia, that I may make up a general State of the Whole to be laid before General Forbes at the different times as they shall offer.

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<sup>1</sup> The Raven warrior was on a scout from Fort Frederick, Md., in which he was unsuccessful. On his return to Fort Loudoun he produced two white men's scalps, which he brought from his own tribe, and wanted to pass them for the enemy's, taken in his unsuccessful scout. In this villainy he was detected by the other warriors, who were highly offended at so base a deceit and threatened to kill him for it. A consciousness of his guilt and a dread of being called to a severe account by his own tribe were the reasons which many of them assigned for his going away in so abrupt, but to Washington by no means dissatisfactory, a manner. See Washington's letter to Major Halket of May 11, 1758.

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FROM COLONEL GEORGE MASON.

RACE GROUND AT BOGGESS'S Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
1758 — 5 O'Clock p: m: —

DEAR SIR, — The Bearer French Mason, a Relation of mine, has an Inclination to serve his Country upon the Intended Expedition: I recommended him to the President for a Lieutenancy in the Regiment now raising; but unfortunately before he reached W<sup>ms</sup>burg every Commission was disposed of; otherwise he was sure of succeeding, as the President would have done him any service in his power — As there are some Vacancys in your Regiment, his Honour has been so kind to give him a Letter of Recommendation to you — Had I known of these Vacancys I should have taken the Liberty of applying to you sooner on his Behalf; for as he proposes to continue longer in the service than this Campaign & push his fortune in that way of Life, I would prefer a Commission in your Regiment; & it would give me great satisfaction that he was under the immediate Command of a Gentleman for whom I have so high an Esteem. You may be assured, Sir, that I would not recommend a Person to your Favour, whom I did not from my own knowledge, believe to be a young fellow of Spirit & Integrity — He has lived a good while with me & if I am not greatly deceived, he has personal Bravery that will carry him thro' any Danger with Reputation & this Opinion I am the more confirmed in, as he never was a flashy fellow. He has been but little in Company & has not that Address which is requisite to set a Man

in an Advantageous light at first; but he is a very modest lad, & does not want parts; & I am confident will endeavour to deserve your good opinion as well as to support the Character I have given him. He this moment came up from Wmsburg & found me here & as I thought there was no time to be lost I advised him to set off instantly for Winchester, as soon as I could procure this scrap of paper, & get a place in the Crowd to sit down to write — If he fails in a Commission, he had thoughts of going out a Volunteer but as he has but a Small Fortune, I advised him against it — Whatever you are so kind to do for him on this occasion I shall always regard as a particular obligation on me — I beg You'll excuse this trouble & believe me on all occasions very Sincerely, Dear Sir, Y<sup>r</sup> most ob<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

G. MASON.

I have really wrote this in such a Hurry that I am afraid its hardly intelligible.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The "Race Ground at Boggess's" from which this letter is dated is pointed out to-day as near the present Pohick Church [about six miles below Mount Vernon]. And the race of Bogges has disappeared as completely as the race-course itself, though the older inhabitants in the neighborhood still recall the name. It is difficult now, in driving over this quiet, rather deserted locality, to picture the gay scenes of the early days, when the gentry of the country, the Fairfaxes, Lees, Washingtons, Masons, and others, indulged in one of their favorite amusements on this old race-ground. The yellow manuscript, with its faintly traced characters, penned by Colonel Mason in such haste, amidst the crowd and confusion of that May afternoon in 1758, still seems, however, to carry with it a suggestion of the genial, stirring, eighteenth-century life of which it was once a part. — MISS ROWLAND.

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FROM COLONEL HENRY LEE.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY May 16<sup>th</sup> 1758.

SIR,— In obedience to His Hon<sup>r</sup> The Presidents Orders to me w<sup>ch</sup> I inclose you a Copy off, I have sent One hundred Men of this Militia Commanded by Cap<sup>t</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Clanahan & Capt. William Tebbs to Garrison Fort Loudoun at Winchester.

I have directed them to apply to you for arms and ammunition & to the Commissary for provisions: the Arms sent for the use of this County not being yet arrived, I am, Sir, Your most Obedient H<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

HENRY LEE

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FROM PRESIDENT BLAIR TO THE LIEUTENANT OF PRINCE  
WILLIAM COUNTY

SIR,— As the Law directs the Forts to be garrisoned by the Militia in the absence of the Forces belonging to the Regiment, I do therefore by Virtue of the Power and Authority with which I am invested as Commander in Chief hereby require and Command you to Raise and send one Hundred men of your Militia under the Command of two Captains 2 Lieutenants. 2 Ensigns & 6 Sergeants, with 2 Drums to Garrison Fort Loudoun at Winchester to continue there till the 20th of December next or the Return of the Regiment and you are immediately to return to me an Acc<sup>t</sup> of your proceeding Herein with the names of the Officers and soldiers sent on the service aforesaid.

VOL. II

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Given under my hand this 4th day of May 1758  
(Signed) JOHN BLAIR, P.

A Copy

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FROM WARNER LEWIS, ESQ.

May 5, 1758

DEAR SIR

The Bearer M<sup>r</sup>. Charles Tomkins an Officer in Col<sup>o</sup>. Byrds Regiment will deliver you this, and shall be obliged to you for any thing wherein you can be serviceable to him, not doubting your readiness to oblige me in a thing of this sort, I have taken upon me to recommend him to you as a Gentleman of worth & particular friend of mine. I heartly wish you success, & may all happiness attend you. I am  
D<sup>r</sup>. Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>. Affect Kinsman  
WARNER LEWIS

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FROM WARNER LEWIS, ESQ.

DEAR SIR, — Lieutenant Thurston of Colo. Byrd's regiment will deliver you this & I beg leave to recommend him to you, for your kind advice, notice, & assistance, & shou'd anything happen in the course of this undertaking, wherein a friend may be requisite, I hope (upon my account) You will think of Mr. Thurston & do him all the good services in your power, as it will be doing me a singular favour. M<sup>r</sup>. Edw<sup>d</sup>. Cary will be with him, who I likewise recom-

mend to your kind notice. I am, Sir, y<sup>r</sup> most Obed<sup>t</sup>  
& Affectionate Serv<sup>t</sup>

WARNER LEWIS

WARNER HALL,  
May 6<sup>th</sup> 1758.

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FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR.

YORK, May 7, 1758.

DEAR SIR, — Two days ago I received your Letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> which I transmitted yesterday morning by Express to General Forbes, this morning the Post gave me your other Letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> which I shall send likewise to the Gen<sup>l</sup>. You 'll see by Major Hackett's Letter that the Gen<sup>l</sup> was greatly alarmed w<sup>t</sup> a Report which prevailed of some Cherokees having left Winchester. I am glad not to find it mentioned in any of yours. I am sorry to hear of the Incursion the Indians have made in Augusta.

I could easily foresee the Inconveniencys you wou'd labour under at Winchester, I have and shall do everything in my power to have the service carry'd on. There is to be a meeting the 18<sup>th</sup>. Inst. at Winchester of Mr. Sharpe, Mr. Blair and Myself to regulate many things, Untill that time I do not see in what manner you can get in your Out Garrisons. Cou'd I be of any Service to you before that time I wou'd come to you.

I am busy about Roads, Hay, Oats, Indian Corn, & Waggon, & I am to have a meeting with all the people of this County the 11<sup>th</sup>, that done I shall set out for Winchester, but I must return this day to Lancaster.

I have got 360 Match Coats & a Doz<sup>n</sup> more light Guns with some Vermilion, I shall send them off tomorrow for Winchester, with Mr. Henry & two men more who I sent to repair your arms. I shall be with you the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> at furthest. I beg the Favour of you to get me a Lodging.

Please to make my Compliments to the Gentlemen of your Corps and be assured that I am with great Regard Dear Sir Your most obedient and most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN ST<sup>T</sup> CLAIR.

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FROM JOHN NORTON, ESQ.

YORK the 9th. May 1758

S<sup>R</sup>, — I take the liberty to Recommend the bearers hereof, Mr. Thurston & Mr. Cary to your favour, they have I believe raised about 30 Men for the new Regiment, the former is in hopes of a 2<sup>d</sup> Lieutenancy & the latter to be an Ensign, they are both very Sober young men & I doubt not but will behave themselves in such manner as to merit your esteem. Any civilitys you shew them will much oblige S<sup>t</sup> y<sup>t</sup> most hubl. Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN NORTON

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FROM PRESIDENT BLAIR

W<sup>M</sup>S<sup>B</sup>URGH May 11<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR, — I have just received a Letter from the Honb<sup>le</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Nelson, Esq<sup>re</sup>, in favour of Lieut. Baker

now here with yo<sup>r</sup> permission. His friends have prompted him to think of filling the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Captn. Joshua Lewis, and have strongly solicited Mr. Nelson to intercede with me for that promotion, in consideration of his bold and gallant behaviour in his Excursion towards Fort Du Quesne. His Honor was afraid lest it might be thought unjust to the Senior Lieutenant, who seemed to have a Right to a Preference. They replied that when a junior officer had signalized himself by his remarkable good behaviour on any particular occasion, as Mr. Baker had, it was not unjust nor unusual to promote such an one, as it would inspire others to emulation; and that Rewards to merit are the best means to make good officers, rather than to adhere invariably to seniority. Upon the Whole His Hon<sup>r</sup> was so convinced of Mr. Bakers merit that he strongly recommended him to me, if it could be done without prejudice to the service & that it would be very obliging to him. I have had other solicitations to the same purpose, but I need not mention them after Mr. Nelsons, whom I would fain oblige; only Col. Rob<sup>t</sup> Burwell urges the Governor's promise to promote him for his gallant conduct on that occasion. I told Col<sup>o</sup> Burwell I was convinced of his merit & would gladly oblige; but that I had at y<sup>r</sup> request sent you up 6 blank Commiss<sup>ns</sup> ab<sup>t</sup> 10 Days ago. If that is yet blank I desire it may remain so, till I hear from you. I wish you had mentioned Mr. Baker's courage & conduct on that occa-

sion, at the same time with L: Bullits Seniority, that it might have been considered here.<sup>1</sup>

I am Sir your very hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAIR

At least I hope Mr. Baker may fill Col. Mercer's Post in your Regiment for this Campaign.

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FROM JOHN BLAGG.

May the 11<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR, — I Have in Listed twenty two men & thare is eight or tenn more that Has Promised if Can Gitt the money to Give them for they will Not take orders for any Part the Officers of the New Regiment Has Made a Practiss of Giving the full Bounty so that they are not to be Gott with out Pray send me Some money Down for I have Borrowed upwards of a Hundred Pound in town & Promised to Return it before I Left this Col<sup>o</sup> Stephen Has a Return of the Stores which I sent up by Serj: Edmonson I am Sir with Respect your Hum Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAGG

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<sup>1</sup> Washington replied as follows: "It will cause great dissatisfaction in the regiment if Lieutenant Baker is put over the heads of older officers. It is granted that Mr. Baker is a very deserving officer, but there are others equally deserving and have adventured equally to seek glory, and to merit applause. Ensign Chew, for instance, was with him when the scalps were taken; Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie, Lt. Gist, Mr. Woodward and many others have adventured as far into the enemy's country, tho' with less success. I therefore hope (to prevent the disorders consequent upon his advancement) that your Honor will suffer Colo. Mercer's company to be given to Mr. Stewart, the oldest Lieutenant, as Capt. Lewis was in the like case to Mr. Bullitt."

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FROM COLONEL SIR JOHN ST. CLAIR.

FREDERICK TOWN Sunday forenoon May 14<sup>th</sup> 1758.

DEAR SIR, — Yesterday afternoon the Post gave me your Letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> which I transmitted to Brig<sup>dr</sup> Forbes. I expect Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe at this place every moment, and if I was at Winchester I cou'd do but little untill he & M<sup>r</sup> Blair arrived. I shall be with you at furthest on teusday morning which makes me not enter upon particulars as I am to see you so soon. I am with great Sincerity Dear Sir,  
Your most obedient and most humble servant

JOHN S<sup>T</sup> CLAIR.

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FROM THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT BLAIR.

WILLIAMSBURG May 15<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR, — I have yours now by Mr. Jenkins of the 10<sup>th</sup> with the advice of your Council of Officers, on the Straits you are reduced to in recruiting, for want of Money. I have called a full Council to meet on Friday next; which considering their distance, could not be sooner, and shall lay it fully before them; and you may depend on all in my Power to serve you in it. I write this now by Maj<sup>r</sup> Finnie to let you know the occasion of my keeping Jenkins 'till the Council, when I propose to write fully to you.

General Forbes expects a proposal from Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharp to me to take the Maryland Forces in our Pay. I have writ fully to Sir John, and to Col<sup>o</sup> Peter Randolph about it, so need only refer you to them,

as I expect they will both be with you as soon as this.  
It is now past Eleven so I bid you Good Night and  
am Sir

Your very Hum Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAIR

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FROM WILLIAM CALLAWAY.

BEDFORD 15<sup>th</sup> May 1758

SIR

The Circumstances of affairs at this time causes my Boldness in hopes To Receive Information what was y<sup>e</sup> Reason of our frend Indions as we Call them Returning Home if they are Returned & To inform you how we are opressd & what has hapened Last week by several Parties of Indions by Computation about 70 or 80 which Cald themselves Sumtimes Cherokees and sumtimes Shonees & has acted Vilinously Robing & Stealing, Plundering houses; Puling men of their horses striping & whipping Beating with tomahoaks & Stoning many People in so much that the People Gathering demanded Reasons & their Horses to be Returned On that they have had two scrimidges There was four white men folowed & Come up with three Indions who Put our men to defianc & shott at them several runs & then went of our white men being Joynd by seven other white men folowed y<sup>e</sup> Indions who when they Came to them was Joynd by Ten more Indions Our men Told y<sup>e</sup> Indions they were brothers & that they wanted their horses The Indions told them that they must fight for them and Prepared them-

selves for Battle Our People Told y<sup>e</sup> Indions they did not want to fight they were Brothers they only wanted their horses y<sup>e</sup> Indions called themselves Shawnees & fird three guns at our men & omediatly three more & shot down W<sup>m</sup> Hall one of our men on which although our men had not all got guns & sum of them wood not fire they Returned y<sup>e</sup> fire so Brisk that they Kild three Indions & wounded several Took the stolen Horses & plunder there was one white man kil<sup>d</sup> & one wounded — Likewise another Party Comited y<sup>e</sup> same vilony with Cuting open beds & throughing out y<sup>e</sup> fithers & was folowed & when the white men Came near a Cap of Lunenburg and a Lieutenant of this County went up to talk with y<sup>e</sup> Indions & Cald them Brothers & desid<sup>d</sup> to be in frend ship with them. The Indions answd. no Brothers no Cherokees they were Shionese Took the Cap & Lieutenant & strapd them & Beat Them That they were Glad to Got off naked to save Life on which the Rest of their men Pursued & Gott before the Indions & had a scurmidge with them But y<sup>e</sup> number of Indions computed sixty or Seventy & white men about forty & sum Part of y<sup>e</sup> white men Run before a gun fird Others Broke soon after without being of any service the Indions Kept the grounds when the white men went y<sup>e</sup> next day there was but one Indion But many Horses & sum Bagidg The Consequence of this time only Is to determine If the Indions should be Cherokees Acting this to open a War It may Hasten the Crises if not they must Explain their frendship on better tirms Our County as well as the Neighbouring Countys is in

the greatest Consternation Imaginable I thought it most Expedient to Comunicate this to you & hope you will mutely consider the Case & as we are not aprised Whether those Indions if Cherokees is diserted or not that its Quite nesary you should know their behaviour you may the better deal with those still at that place though the distance was great it must be Expedient to Comunicate the Case which I hope you will give your self the Trouble to send an answer by y<sup>e</sup> bearer & other news if not ag<sup>st</sup> your athoritys Intrests

I shall subscribe my self your most

oblid your Hum<sup>e</sup> ser<sup>t</sup> W<sup>M</sup> CALLAWAY

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FROM COLONEL GEORGE MASON.

DOGUES NECK 16<sup>th</sup> May 1758

DEAR SIR

I am favour'd with y<sup>rs</sup> of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst, pr. French Mason, & am perfectly satisfied w<sup>th</sup> the Justice of y<sup>r</sup> Reasons for not providing for him in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment at this Time. I am Convinced from your State of the Case that it Could not have been done without prejudicing the service. He tells me you were kind enough to promise him a Commission the next vacancy that happens. I shou'd have been very glad his Fortune would have supported him as a Volunteer: both he & I were very found of his entering as such in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment; but I really did not think it advisable that he shou'd run his own little Estate in Debt upon the occasion: You know what kind of

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an establishment our Virginia Troops are on — Nobody can tell how soon they may all be disbanded without any provision for a broken Leg, or a shortened Arm! or if they shou'd happen to be kept up for a good many years, how possible is it for an Officer to be reduced without being guilty or so much as accused of any Misbehaviour? Faith these are discouraging Circumstances. On the British Establishment a young fellow may venture to dip his Estate a little on the Road to preferment, where he is sure, if he behaves well that a Commission is some sort of a provision for Life; but here I really think a young man who Enters into the service, & has but a small Estate of his own ought if possible to preserve it unimpaired, to return to in case of a Disappointment, or an Accident. — These Reasons have influenced me to dissuade French Mason from entering as a Volunteer; & as he is very fond of trying a Soldiers Life & indeed I found it absolutely necessary that he should do so, as the only means of getting clear of a very foolish Affair he is likely to fall into with a Girl in this Neighbourhood, I have advised him to enlist in the new Regiment, if he can be made a Serjeant: my Reason for advising him to enlist in that Regiment, is that if he shou'd be disappointed in getting a Commission, he may if he pleases, quit the Service the first of December next; whereas, from the Act of Assembly, it appears to Me, that the Men who enlist in the old Regiment may be detain'd as long as any Troops are kept up in the pay of this Government; at least it may admit of a Dispute — I speak this to you only as my own

private Opinion, without any Intention of making it public to the prejudice of the recruiting Service —

If he shou'd have the good fortune to get a Commission, tho' he will accept of the first that offers in either Regiment, he will prefer an Ensignsy in y<sup>r</sup> Regiment to a Lieutenancy in the other, & I have advised him if he shou'd get a Com<sup>n</sup> in Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd's Regiment to exchange it if he can by any Means for one in yours — I shall relye Sir on your good Offi in his Favour whenever a Vacancy happens, & flatter myself that, by a strict Adherence to hi Duty, he will strive to deserve your good Opinion — I very sincerely wish you  
Health & every Felicity & am D<sup>r</sup> Sir

[mutilated]

Y<sup>r</sup> most obd: Ser  
G MA

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FROM JOSEPH CHEW.

NEW LONDON May 10<sup>th</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

I Rece<sup>d</sup> your Very kind Letter by my Brother and assure you both my Little Partner and self Return you our sincere thanks for your kind wishes, how Earnestly Dear sir Do I wish your Business would now Call you to the northward, that I might have an opportunity of behaving to you in a more suitable manner than I could when you was last *here*, believe me when I say my Sincere hearty good wishes accompany Every undertaking & step you take and Permit me to add that you have my Earnest Prayers,

that you may make a Glorious & successfull Campaign, after which I hope you will meet with that Reward and notice from your king & Country you have so Long merited; and so greatly deserved,

The Transports & Troops for Hallyfax sail'd last Wensday from New York — we have a Report that Admiral Boscowin is arrived, but that the post must determine who will be [here] in about one hour if so you will find it in the Boston papers w<sup>ch</sup> I shall inclose you, — our Levys here do not goe on with that success & spirrit I could wish, N. England Vanity seems to be at as high a flow as Ever, it would divert you to see many of the Officers they have appointed, one of the finest Fellows in this Colony was absolutely Rejected by the Assembly, for no other thing than using the following words at Lake George (1755) when the forces seem'd inclynable to give way — *Dam ye my Lads, stand to the Breastwork & fire away,—you kill them Faster than the Devill can Carry them off*

This was & is Esteemed by Our Pious sanctified *Brutes*, as great Prophaness & shows the want of *Faith & Grace*

if I Receive a more than ordinary Joy at the Preparations which are making this season it is at the Promising Prospect from those in my own Country. I am much Pleased to hear of the number of Indians you have and hope your operations will begin before they are disatisfied at Lying still. I will Write you Every Post and ~~pray~~ give you as Early acc<sup>ts</sup> as Possible of what is doing here, and hope to hear

from you what passes in your Neighbourhood, be assured that I am with Real truth & Respect my Dear Sir

Your most affectionate  
 JOS CHEW

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FROM LIEUTENANT BULLITT.

PATTERSON'S May 21<sup>st</sup> 1758.

D<sup>R</sup>. SIR/

As John Ward, a Soldier in my Company was seting at the Indian Camp Eating some Victuals, one of the Cherokees askt him for some whiskey, he not giving him a Direct answer, pickt up his gun and shot him through the back, I iṃmediately sent out a Caṃand to the Camp which place was found Avacuated by all of them but one which was found dead with his throat Cut from Ear to Ear by one of their own men, by what I can Understand of them it was he that Shott the Soldier, Some part of them Imediately took to the woods, the others Remains att this place, I took the Oppinion of the Gentlemen, and it was agreed not to use any harsh means with them till you ware Acquainted with the Accident, Please send the Doc<sup>r</sup> down with all Immagenable speed as there is some hopes of the mans Recovering also the Indians Desires M<sup>r</sup> Smith to Come down as soon as Possible he can I cant give you a true Light of the affair till Mr. Smith comes down. — I be obliged to you if you 'll tell the Doct<sup>r</sup> to bring down some sarve fore sore Leggs.

I am D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> your most Obt. Hble.

THO<sup>s</sup> BULLITT

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FROM BEVERLY ROBINSON, ESQ.

NEW YORK 21<sup>st</sup> May 1758.

DEAR SIR/

Yours of the 27<sup>th</sup> Ap<sup>r</sup>: I Rec<sup>d</sup> as I did Sometime before yours of y<sup>e</sup>: 6<sup>th</sup>: Inclosing one for M<sup>r</sup>: Richar [mutilated] ton. which Letter I forwarded by [mutilated] pshire Man War she Sailed the 3<sup>d</sup>: Instant [mutilated] Sandy Hook With Lord Loudoun on Board [mutilated]ve no News but what ~~you~~ is in the Inclosed paper Except that some of our Rangers & Indians have brought in about 20 french prisoner & 8 or 10 Scalps Lately but what Acco<sup>ts</sup>: they give I dont know

I am Dear Sir Y<sup>r</sup>: Aff<sup>t</sup>: H Ser<sup>t</sup>:

BEV: ROBINSON

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FROM JOSEPH CHEW.

NEW LONDON 17<sup>th</sup> May 1758

DEAR SIR

The Post waits I can therefore only stop him to cover the inclosed paper to w<sup>ch</sup>: Refer you for *news*. my Little Woman Returns you her most sincere thanks for your kind wishes and says she Longs to have the Pleasure of seeing you in this Part of the world having heard me often mention you — I Pray you to accept of Both our Compliments & best wishes for your sincere Happiness & believe me to be my Dear Friend

Your affectionate

JOS CHEW

FROM THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT BLAIR.

WILLIAMSBURG May 24<sup>th</sup>. 1758

SIR

The distresses in Bedford and Halifax had occasioned my Calling a full Council to meet on the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> which obliged Col: Maury to a long attendance here, in which time Jenkins bro<sup>t</sup> me yours of May 10<sup>th</sup> with the Opinion of your Council of Officers on your Necessity of imploying the £400—sent you for Contingencies in the recruiting Service; and the utter insufficiency of that, to discharge your Engagements. Being under Difficultys about it, I kept him several days 'till the Council; who did not apprehend you was warranted to give more than £5—bounty Money, for the Recruits of your Regiment; and yet I cannot see how it could at this time be expected, while we were giving Ten pounds for the other. Be that as it will, we determined to send you a Supply of Money; and I sent presently to the Treasury for £1000—for you. But to my great surprise M<sup>r</sup>: Cock whom I expected to deliver it out) was gone out of Town. As I had kept Jenkins 'till then, it vexed me heartily to find a further delay. I first endeavoured to get it from the Gentl<sup>rs</sup>: Signers here, but the Attorney was gone too, who should have signed M<sup>r</sup>: Nicholas's Book. I then thought to send express to the Speaker, and writ for an Order to some Gent<sup>l</sup>: here but hearing that M<sup>r</sup>: Cock had the Key with him I sent an Express to him at Col<sup>l</sup>: William Randolphs, and got him to Town last Night, and at last got the money this Morning, as

I thought it vain to send him up without it.<sup>1</sup> During this delay, I received a Letter from Gov: Sharp, acquainting me that his Assembly had broke up without so much as paying the arrears of their Men from the 8<sup>th</sup> of Oct: Last. He purposes, if we are in want, to offer some of his, on terms of your paying their Arrears, which he thinks will be less than our Bounty. But I perceive he has some view of getting the General to take them; and I imagine we are near full. Jenkins<sup>2</sup> has bro: me two lusty able Sailors, that are willing to enlist for this Campaign, so I send them to you by him, as he was earnest to carry up two such fine fellows. Last Saturday bro: me an Acco: of a large party of Indians who in passing thro' Bedford spread themselves in smaller Companys many Miles wide and Robb'd every Plantation they came at. This provoked the Inhabitants to a great degree; Col: Talbot sent out Militia to protect them, who came up with a Party of them and seeing some of their Horses demanded restitu-

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<sup>1</sup> By reason of the great scarcity of gold and silver in Virginia at this time, the taxes, imposed for augmenting the forces in the pay of the colony, could not be collected in time to answer the purposes intended. It was therefore made lawful for the treasurer to issue treasury notes to answer the demands made upon him. Such notes were to be printed, engraved, and numbered in such form and after such method as the treasurer should judge most safe from counterfeits and forgeries; and were to be signed by Peyton Randolph and Robert Carter Nicholas, each of whom were to receive the sum of twenty shillings for every thousand notes by him signed and delivered to the treasurer. In September of this year William Prentis, James Cocke, and Thomas Everhard, gentlemen, were appointed commissioners to examine, state, and settle such accounts as should be referred to them by the governor or commander-in-chief. Benjamin Waller, Philip Johnson, and Edmund Pendleton were added to the signers of notes, and John Palmer and George Davenport were appointed to overlook the press during the time of the printing of the notes.

<sup>2</sup> Jenkins, the indefatigable bearer of dispatches on the "express" between Washington and Williamsburg, deserves more than passing notice. Among Washington's accounts for this period are many items paid by Washington to William Jenkins by order of Governor Dinwiddie and President Blair in recognition of his services.

tion; but the Indians answered they must fight for them, and fired upon them, and killed one Man; whereupon they fired upon the Indians and killed some of them. But to save my writing I send you the accounts I received, having ordered a strict enquiry to be made above, by Col: Read, Col: Talbott and Col. Maury, which when transmitted to me I purpose to send by express to Gov: Lyttleton to beg his Assistance, to prevent the disaffection of the Nation and the ill consequences that might ensue on a misrepresentation. I writ some acco<sup>t</sup> of this by Lieut: Waller who I hope will be up this day, and I desired Col: Mercer to communicate it to Sir John S: Clair and you and to M: Gist. You may assure them if our Men were the aggressors they will be severely punished and if the Indians were guilty of what is charged upon them the Wise great Men our good Friends will not blame what was done, but think they brought it upon themselves by their own folly.

I am Sir Your very humbl Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN BLAIR.

P. S.

I have been obliged this day to change the Militia I had ordered to garrison in Augusta, and to order 50 from Goochland and 50 from Hanover for that Service, which will unavoidably retard Maj: Lewis in joining you at Winchester which I am sorry for One of the Men I send by Jenkins whose name is Hugh Glass, says he was Armourer in the Spy Privateer of Liverpool, and Gunners Mate in the Monmouth Capt<sup>n</sup>: Twentymen a Letter of Marque now here. He hopes as he is an able man <sup>ft: In:</sup> 5.. 10.. and

used to business, some little post above the common level (if not rather in his former employment may be bestowed upon him.

*Depositions and Letters in Regard to Behavior of Friendly  
Cherokees.<sup>1</sup>*

BEDFORD COUNTY

This Day Timothy Dalton made Oath before me one of his majestyes Justices of the peace for the Said County : that yesterday there Came to his house three Indians and Quickly after Came four white men in Pursuit of the Said Indians namely John Wheeler Rob<sup>t</sup> Dalton Henry Wooddy William Hall from whom the Said Indians had Stollen horses from and Demanded the horses of the Said Indians but they Refused to let them have them on which the Said Wheeler went to take one of the horses on which they Shot at the Said Wheeler three times but Missed him on which the Said Indians went away and the Said white men in a Small time Joined with Seven more white men and went in Pursuit of the Said Indians again and them Indians being Joined by ten more Indians went over Stanton River a mile above the mouth of Pigg River and Threw off there Packs and Prepared them Selves for Battle then William Vardeman Sener and Some of the Rest went up to them and told them they Did not want to fight they only wanted there Horses and Did not want to hurt them on which the Indians told them they Should fight for them and Immediately the Indians fired on them three Guns Still the white men would not Shoot at them then the Indians fired three Guns more at them on that the Battle Began in which William Hall was mortally wounded of which wound he Died this Morning : and Likewise Richard Thompson was wounded in the Shoulder and Buttock ; and that the white men Like Wise Killed and Scalped three Indians on which the Rest of the Indians Ran away and Left the horses and the Chief of the Plunder they had Stolen ; and farther this Deponent Saith not Certified under my hand this the 9 Day of May 1758

ROB<sup>t</sup> BABER

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<sup>1</sup> Sent by President Blair to Washington.

JAMES TURNERS GOOSE CREEK May y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

With Sorrow I inform you that this Instant I was Pursueing the Indians we take to be our friend and meet Jn<sup>o</sup> Echoles who was a Comeing from Tho<sup>s</sup> Morgans who inform me that the Indians has taken all Tho<sup>s</sup> Morgans family and all are Carried away or kill<sup>d</sup> and all the Goods Carried away and destroyed and it is the opinion of the men that Some are Kill<sup>d</sup> by the Signs they Saw — and <sup>as</sup> you render the Good of your Self and Country beg youl Send men immediatly without Calling them together and <sup>give</sup> Express ~~or send~~ orders for the men to march immediatly out to our assistance as we have but about Seventeen men and they are thirty Large odd in Company and if men Comes directly to Pursue them make no doubt with gods assisting Power to relieve the Poor distressed Prisoners I shal directly Pursue them they made Signs at my house that all the rest of the Indians are a Comeing from Winchester and think it would be Proper to Send to other Countyes for assistance So with Expectation of your best Assistance Rest your obedient friend and humble Ser<sup>t</sup>

WILLIAM MEAD

To COL<sup>o</sup> MATT<sup>y</sup> TALBOT

FROM CHARLES TALBOT.

May 11<sup>th</sup> — 10 of the Clock 1758

DEAR SIR

Pray be so good as <sup>to</sup> Send an Express to Prince Edward if Father has not thought to put you in mind of it Yesterday I understand that that they had theare Companys Called together to Draft Sum men to Send to our Relef but I have no opportunity to Send Theare Thearefore I hope you will as we have no Friend to Depend on for pore Bedford but you you will do what you Can for us for we never had the Like need of help I am D: Sir Y:

Hum Ser<sup>t</sup>

CHA<sup>s</sup> TALBOT.

To

COL. CLEM<sup>t</sup> READ

on his Maj<sup>y</sup> Servis

FROM PINKNEY HAWKINS.

BEDFORD May 10<sup>th</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

Last Thursday Col<sup>l</sup>: Witton Order'd me out to Blackwater Fort to Release Cap<sup>t</sup>: Cargill tho Instead of Releaving any we want five Times as many more, Tuesday Morning I Received an Express from Col<sup>l</sup>: Talbott to March immediately to Join Cap<sup>t</sup>: Mead with another party of men to follow some Indians that had done some Mischef on Goose Creek we follow'd hard after Still till this Morning about 10 OClock we Came to an engagement in which we were forced to give Ground, by all that I Can gether from my men & Com.y we have killed 16 or 17 of them, we have Six Men Mising tho hope they are not all killed for they Still keep Comeing inn the Battle was faught 9 Miles from hence ; if Lieutenant Mitchell has not 30 Men Make up that Quantity and 30 More besides at Least, the Wood is full of Indians and few White; we faught 35 Men to at Least By all Acc<sup>ts</sup> vs 70 or 80 Indians, I offered them a parley which Occasion'd me to fall in their hands, they beat me and Strip'd me and then sent me away, pray dont fail making Mitchell's Company Sixty men for these back Parts wholly Depend on Lunenburg for Sucker; healp is now so much wanting that these Parts dont Gett Immediate help Col<sup>l</sup>: Talbott will be the frontear house in one Weak, pray be as expeditious as Possable

I am

Dear Sir Y<sup>r</sup>: Most

hble Ser<sup>t</sup>: &c<sup>s</sup>:

PINK<sup>N</sup> HAWKINS

P. S. pray be so good as to Write to my Brother I have no time Likewise to James Coleman that his son is well. P. H.

To

COL<sup>l</sup>: CLEMENT READ

Lunenburg.

D<sup>r</sup>: SIR

in what Manner Shall I Represent to you the Horror and anxieties that at this time reigns among our Inhabitants (indeed as I have not words I must be Silent and Leave it to your im-

magination) Occasioned by these banditties of Cherokees who daily are traveling through our County (either as they Say) going to Winchester or returning from thence in which travel they Rob our houses of all things they Like So <sup>that</sup> oftentime they Leave us not one rag of Cloaths to Shift our Selves withall nor never a horse to goe mill or plough withall, yet these people are Called our friends our people will bear it no Longer Indeed I think they have bore it to Long allready and I do not know but the persons who have exerted them Selves in defence of their rights and properties may be Called to a Strict account for it, but if ~~nobody~~ <sup>all persons</sup> had the <sup>Same</sup> Sentiments of it that I have, they would encourage and Commend them for their bravery and <sup>resolution</sup> ~~Resolve~~ in not tamely resigning up their Goods when they Can get <sup>no</sup> restitution for them a Specimen of which you have in the affidavit of Timothy Dalton which I have Inclosed in the Letter to the president and have Left open for you to peruse and beg youl Seal it before it goe from you and beg youl Send it away as Soon as you Can that I may have <sup>an</sup> answer and See what Measures are to be taken in it the men not one of them will budge a foot I beg youl write to me and Give me your Sentiments on the affair, Last Sunday there passed by 33 Indians in another parCel which Robed and pillaged as they went Cap<sup>t</sup> mead with Seventen men went in pursuit of them and wrote to me to beg I would Send him Some assistance on which Letter (which I Shall ~~Inc~~ Inclose to you a Copy) I Sent an Express to Pinkey Hawkin (who went from my house the evening before) to Join mead — and if they Come up with the Indians as I expect they will and the Indians will <sup>not</sup> deliver the Horses and other things they have Stole a Battle will insue for our people is determined to bear Such usage no Longer — our County ~~County~~ is intirely broke by them I really bleive if the people Continue to move as they have done I shall be Left the frontier plantation toward Blackwater fort before the Last of this week (that is where no men are Stationed) I have been uneasy ever Since ~~Since~~ Sunday that I have not heard from you for it is from you and only you that I expect relief from, I beg if this Come to y<sup>r</sup> Hand before you Send to

me that you be so good as to Send Isham up to me to be Some assistance to me in these troublesome times for I am very much afraid I must move my wife and what Small effects to Some place of Safety and I wish you would be pleased to Look out for a west house a Small one would do for my wife and I though I will be hear as Long as I Can Y<sup>r</sup> Compliance will Greatly

oblige D<sup>r</sup> Sir yr very Hble  
Ser<sup>t</sup>

MATT<sup>w</sup> TALBOT

May y<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1758

P<sup>s</sup>/SIR I beg you Hasten up what men you design for our relief D<sup>r</sup> Sir I beg you Let Isham Come up to me directly and be So good as to Send me a 100 flints and if you have not a horse to Spare Let him Come afoot the Bearer if you order him will goe to Wmburgh with the Letter to the President — I this minute Recd yrs by Hicks and alas See our frontiers (as you observe) is) Little regarded I Sent Hicks to Augusta with the Letters for there and have Sent a Messenger to Col<sup>o</sup> Howard to Albemarle — if I had the Eloquence of Cicero I Could not tell you the anxiety of my Soul at this time for my Self family and Inhabitants here — Keith Daughter is dead Likewise I am informed to day that Bruff wife is Likewise dead

[Here follows a copy of the letter of W<sup>m</sup> Mead from James Turner's Goose Creek May y<sup>r</sup> 8 1758]

D<sup>r</sup> SIR/Theo. Morgan is at my house now but time will not permit me to give you an acc<sup>t</sup> of it through mistake I broke open y<sup>r</sup> Letter for God Sake Send help immediately I refer you to MeSheer Hole for farther particulars.

To

CLEM. READ ESQ  
Lunenburg

for God Sake Send us all the assistance you Likewise order us arms ammunition and flints immediately

FROM JOSEPH COLLINS.

S<sup>e</sup> I am Credibly Informed that the Indians go at Least if not Sixty has Broke on the Inhabitants of pigg river & proclaims wars openly with us & I am Inform<sup>d</sup> that above me the people

are Some gone against them <sup>namely</sup> Ja<sup>s</sup> Dil<sup>d</sup> Ja<sup>s</sup> Collins & others & I understand ammuniton is very Scarce & partly believe it to be so thro the County So pray S<sup>r</sup> fail not to make application to Co<sup>l</sup> Reed according to the advice of the pres<sup>t</sup> Immediately if we have any regard to our offsprings for it appears on the face of my mind that we Shall be farther alarm<sup>d</sup> soon when perhaps unprovided give Notice to as many as possible but pray<sup>s</sup> to Co<sup>l</sup> Reed & yourself

From a friend &c. JO<sup>s</sup> COLLINS

A widow woman of varassity Came running from my Bro-  
thers & with this melancholy News — says they are and has Been  
<sup>to me</sup> Certainty of the whole of what I have writen & more also

TO JO<sup>r</sup> BATES

The woman tells me that two men ran from She says the bat-  
tle to Cap. Dillard & says that mischief had happen<sup>d</sup> on Each  
side some Indians killd & some of our men Likewise

J. C.

Dear sir my oppinion is that it would be good to Send to Cap<sup>t</sup>  
Spraggen that he might acquaint

COL MURCEY

that the Militia might be might be raised

FROM MATTHEW TALBOT.

OTTER RIVER May y<sup>e</sup> 3 1758

D<sup>r</sup> SIR

I write this now expecting to have an opportunity to Send to  
you — I Rec<sup>d</sup> yours by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Townshend of April 19<sup>th</sup>  
which was a great pleasure to me to hear you was Setting of to  
W<sup>m</sup>burgh because I knoes you will be so Good as to Lay our  
deplorable Situation before his Hon<sup>r</sup> and the Council and I am  
in Great hopes you will be Invested with Such a power as to  
relieve our Poor unhappy Country on any emergant accession  
<sup>without</sup> <sup>to</sup> ~~who~~ Sending <sup>to</sup> town — I Sent the Express by Maj<sup>r</sup> Smith who Pro-  
mised to Contrive it with the Greatest Expedition but I as yet hear  
nothing of them — I do everything I can to keep a few men out  
on the frontiers of this County but alass I fear it will not be long  
they will Continue indeed it is very hard for men to be from there

plantations at this time of the year when they Should be planting Corn to make bread for their families — it did not ly in Maj<sup>r</sup> Caldwell nor Cap<sup>t</sup> Duggin power to keep your men out — I Could get Some men to keep out if I would engage they Should Stay out all the Summer and So make a Crop out of their wages to maintain themselves and families (those that have any) D<sup>r</sup> Clem I am very uneasy about the Cherokees there was about fifteen Came through the Settlement where I Live and Spread themselves at least ten miles in breadth and went <sup>to</sup> Every plantation in their way I Cant Say they did much mischief or behaved very ill but their presence frithen the women very much So much that if they <sup>be</sup> allowed to Come without white men <sup>with them</sup> ~~without~~ I do not believe our County will Stand a month Longer there Came about nine or ten to my house they reley Seem to me as if they Came to See what white men and negroes we have and so <sup>see what</sup> ~~our~~ Strength we are of, the people in general Seem to fear the return of them with more force they made for Stanton and So to Pig river which Course lies intirely open to them their being no Inhabitants or very few and Every time they Come <sup>they</sup> Still keep Lower down I Just now heard after they Got over Stanton they went to a house where there was not any body but a man and his wife and ransacked the house of every thing they <sup>thought</sup> Proper to take and I expect to hear of Some murder Committed by them when they Get to the outward Inhabitants — my Son James told me when they got about Sixty miles of Winchester they meet three Indians Coming from thence and then there was a Council held ~~agm~~ among them and on the Breaking up of it one Cap<sup>t</sup> and about forty Indians would goe no farther but returnd back and that <sup>the</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> told James the french were Good Shawnees were Good and <sup>the</sup> English were Rogues James told him the reverse he told him he was a d—m<sup>d</sup> ~~Liar~~ Lyar and I am very apt to blieve these are Some of the forty and if so what may we not Expect to be done by them So that Look which way we will we are really in a miserable Situation —

my Son Matt is endeavouring to raise men to goe out after the Indians and to lie in wait for them and tell me he is determin<sup>d</sup>

if it be possible to goe till he get Some of there Scalps <sup>or</sup> and Leave  
 his he immagines to get about five and twenty men — I told him  
 he had better Join Cap<sup>t</sup> Anthony he says no if he goes he will  
 have none but what is Select Gunners and <sup>good woodmen</sup> Gunners I know he  
 refuses Several who offer to goe because they are not Such he  
 Seems to be very ambitious that way and <sup>I</sup> Cannot <sup>forbear</sup> encouraging  
 him in <sup>it</sup> he hath Listed ~~the Last~~ the Last prisoner which made  
 his escape and yesterday went to get marris Griffith and I dare  
 to blieve if Peter Luney do not wait in expectation of Maj<sup>r</sup> Smith  
 goeing he will goe with him — he tell me he will goe as far as he  
 Can without running so Great a hasard to no Effect he Says he  
 wants but eight days provision and Some affuniton he tell me  
 he doth not design to be in again under two months he will Leave  
 his wife and Children with me or at Charles — Maj<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Harris  
 Came to <sup>my</sup> house this evening and we have agreed to Settle our  
 affairs by arbitration at our next Court So that beg youl Send  
 me the Copy of the Judgm<sup>t</sup> and beg youl be So good as Con-  
 trive <sup>it</sup> without <sup>fail</sup> the Letter he hath wrote to mr. Goode to meet at  
 that time for if I Can Settle that affair it will be of Great Content  
 to me — Sir as I expect the rangers Daily and am at a Loss to  
 dictate a warrant to Send them I Should take it extreamly kind  
 of you to be so good as to form one Leaving the places Blank  
 that they are to range and the places they are to be Stationed  
 at — and Inclose <sup>it</sup> to me — and the favour Shall be gratefully  
 acknowledged by him who is D<sup>r</sup> Sir Y<sup>r</sup> very most ~~humble~~ and  
 Affect — Ser<sup>t</sup>

MATT<sup>w</sup> TALBOT

P<sup>s</sup>/as to y<sup>r</sup> Relateing to Chiles Negroes he Sold one to mr.  
 Arther which with Some tob<sup>o</sup> he let mr. Hossy have they have  
 Compromised the matter ~~and~~ if their had been a Sale I would  
 have done my utmost to Serve you I am y<sup>r</sup>

M T<sup>r</sup>

I Likewise beg D<sup>r</sup> Sir that youl be So good as to write me

Such a bond as may oblige Harris and Goode to Stand to the  
Settlement they make and Inclose it <sup>to</sup> <sub>^</sub> me  
To

CLEM<sup>t</sup> READ ESQ.  
Lunenburg.

A merandom of what of what we the supcribers have seen by  
the indins when we come to the house we saw a indin with a knife  
in his han<sup>d</sup> gun acting as tho he had a mind to kill us and went  
out and gave a hallow and then several more apear<sup>d</sup> and he re-  
turnd in again and took my gun and took site at my face and the  
rest Jump of their horses with their guns and knives dran in  
their hands and hallowing and runing as fast as they could to  
the hous and when we told them they should not doe so they  
with their knives opened to stab us so we maid off as fast as fast  
as we could and we heard them braking open the chests as we  
took it to be as witnes our hands

THOMAS MORGAIN  
JACOB DILINN  
CHRISTIAN CHOAT

FROM MATTHEW TALBOT.

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

When Hawkins Letter Came away I had not finished the presi-  
dent Letter and I was not willing to detain the Bearer from  
Comeing to you I have Sent the president Letter with the In-  
closed open that you may perruse them Send the messenger of  
Directly and Seal the Letter — I at present live in danger of my  
life every moment being alone none but my wife the neighbours  
all round me is moved and moveing I intend to Station Some of  
our or your Militia <sup>at my house</sup> <sub>^</sub> I being now allmost the frontier and Shall be  
quite So by Sunday Night I expect to hear of another ingage-  
ment in a day or two our people is Reinforceing themselves to  
overtake them our people Seems to be in high Spirits I hear but  
I hope it is not true that W<sup>m</sup> Irvine was kill<sup>d</sup> in the Last ingage-  
ment — D<sup>r</sup> Sir be pleased to order Some arms and ammunition  
with Some flints for our defence Pray if Isham is not Come <sup>away</sup> <sub>^</sub> I beg  
youl Send him to assist his mother to Some place of Safety if  
you Cannot Spare him a Horse Let him Come afoot I expect the  
Messenger to Come this afternoon which is to bring this —

I am very Scant of paper haveing used what you gave me  
 and <sup>one</sup> Quire more and have but one Sheet Left and the waggon is  
 not Come which was to bring mine up if any thing material hap-  
 pens you Shall hear from me if Life be Spared me

I am D<sup>r</sup> Clem as allways  
 your most Hble Ser<sup>t</sup> to Com<sup>d</sup>

MATT<sup>w</sup> TALBOT

May y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1758

[A postscript has been blotted out.]

To  
 CLEM<sup>t</sup> READ, ESQ.  
 Lunenburgh.

FROM CHARLES TALBOT.

May 12<sup>th</sup> 2 of the Clock

DEA<sup>r</sup> SIR

This moment I Rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from John wood & Paul Chiles  
 and he says that Yesterday the Indians and the white folks had  
 a very hard Battle and the we are much betten and many Killed  
 on both Sids the Last Battle was fought at the Mouth of pigg  
 River that we are all Like to be Killed & taken thearefore for  
 God Sake Send Your Men as fast as possabel or thear will not  
 be a man Left in pore Bedford Paul Chiles and all his fammilly  
 is now at my Hows and pays Negrows and a grate many money  
 more I Expect this Night thearefore Dear: Sr: Do what you  
 Can for our Relif I am

Sir y<sup>e</sup> Hum CH<sup>s</sup> TALBOT.

To  
 CO<sup>t</sup>. CLEM<sup>t</sup> READ.

*Orders for Col<sup>o</sup>. Washington Com<sup>d</sup> the Troops of the Collony &  
 Dominion of Virginia.<sup>1</sup>*

I am directed by the Commander in Chief of the Forces in the  
 Southern district of North America to acquaint you that it is his

<sup>1</sup> These orders were received the same day, and Washington immediately proceeded to their execution, impressing it upon his officers that not a moment was to be lost. On the same day, in obedience to orders, he left Fort Loudoun for Williamsburg to advise with the President and the Council respecting many essential points. Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen was left by Washington in command during his absence.

orders that you call the whole Reg<sup>t</sup> that is under your Command to Winchester excepting the Two Companys on the S<sup>o</sup> Branch of Pottomack & if the Militia should come up to relieve those they are Likewise to Join at Winchester.

You are to hold your Reg<sup>t</sup> & the 2<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> ready to March at the first notice, either the whole or any part of them & prepare every thing for taking the Field You will take care that your Commissarys have always in readiness for your March 8 Days Provisions until you can reach the Kings Magazines from y<sup>e</sup> time you come to them the Virginia Forces will be victualled as his Majestys Regular Troops.

You are <sup>to</sup> give 40 Men to Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart for a Troop of Light Horse from the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Reg<sup>t</sup> those Men to be replacd from the 2<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> & the 40 Men given to Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart to be carried on the Rolls & Returns of the 2<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> & paid by them as a part of the Troops furnished by the Collony of Virginia.

You are to compleat the 1<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> and are to receive directions from M<sup>r</sup> Pres<sup>t</sup> Blair in what manner he would have it done. I have sent to Philadelphia for Tents for the 2 Reg<sup>t</sup> which shall be deliverd you upon M<sup>r</sup> Pres<sup>t</sup> Blairs engaging to pay what they Cost. It will be expected that these Gen<sup>l</sup> Forbes's orders will be complyd with so that the whole may be in readiness to move in Fifteen days from the date hereof.

Given under my Hand at Winchester this Twenty fourth day of May 1758.

JOHN S<sup>t</sup> CLAIR.

FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.

SIR

Agreeable to what Past when last I had the Hon<sup>r</sup> of Confering with You — Inclosed are copys of the Instructions which I have given to the officers acting under <sup>me</sup> — by which You'l discover that they are Divided & Weekend in such a maner that Puts them intirely in the Power of the Enemy as they must cons<sup>v</sup> Range — besides they cannot Be of the same service to the Inhabitants being unable to Oppose a strong Party that may

sudinely<sup>Rush</sup> into the Country<sup>1</sup> — You will further Discover that all the support that the whole of the upper part of the County has,

<sup>1</sup> Inclosures in letter of Captain Rutherford, June 6:—

LIEUT. JOSEPH M<sup>c</sup> DOWELL

SIR

You are to Detach Ensign Fry a serjent & twenty Five men with all imaginable Despatch to Daniel Holemans Fort on the North River of Shannandoah which is to be his place of Rendezvous from which he is to Rang back as far as the Lost River of Capcapon & Downwards towards Potamack as far as the most convenient place for your party and his to Meet Wendalls Fort being the place most advisable in my Opinion that point you are to settle to your liking — When Ensign Fry is Marched with his party, you are with the Remainder of the Comp<sup>y</sup> to Act in the Best manner in your power for the safety of the Inhabitants According to your former Instructions Received from time to time. I shall order part of L<sup>t</sup>: swaringens party to join you soon as Possible — you are to hold the strictes correspondence with Ensign Fry that you may join his Party or his yours on the first emergency

I Depend greatly on your good intentions and Conduct I wish you success

& am your

Respectful Friend

R RUTHERFORD

Given at WINCHESTER the }  
22<sup>d</sup> of May 1758 —

LIEUT THO<sup>s</sup> SWARINGEN

SIR

You are imediately on the Receipt of this to Detach serjant Morgan with thirteen men to Join L<sup>t</sup>: M<sup>c</sup>: dowells party, and with the Remainder of your party you are to continue to observe the Instructions which you have Rec<sup>d</sup> from time to time, of me

I Depend greatly on your constant care — Wish you success

& am

Y<sup>r</sup>: Respectful friend

R<sup>t</sup> RUTHERFORD

Given at WINCHESTER the }  
23<sup>d</sup> of may 1758 —

ENSIGN SAMUEL FRY

SIR

You are to depart with all Imaginable Dispatch and March the Party assignd to you, by L<sup>t</sup>: M<sup>c</sup>: dowell to Daniel Holemans Fort on the North River of Shannandoah which place you are to make your greates Rendezvous from whence you are to Range Back as far as the Lost River and towards Potomack as far as the place agreed on on by L<sup>t</sup>: M<sup>c</sup>: dowell for his party & yours to meet and as your party is But small their greatest use will be for Intelligence which you are to give the Inhabitants and Lieut M<sup>c</sup>: dowell on the Least discovery and then you are to Act as the Nature of the Case will Best admit of by Persuing the Enemy Joining L<sup>t</sup>: M<sup>c</sup>: dowell or any other party most Convenient and Expedient for the Common good — you are to observe to Tread every step with caution you have a Crafty Warlike Enemy to Cope with which you are not

is Ensign Fry & 25 of the Rangers whereas it is absolutely Necessary that Different Partys of the Militia should be in those Parts — Namely at the fine new Mill formerly Lewis Stephen's — Holemans Fort & Pennywitz Mill as the Inhabitants cannot subsist Except those Mills & that Fort is Kept up — & small Numbers at Each place would answer the End together With the Inhabitants — which would enable M<sup>r</sup> Fry's Party to join L<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup> dowell, & then they could Range in a strong Body — Pray give me Leave to say it is absolutely Necessary for Militia to be Stationed at the afforesaid places Otherwise the Comunication Between Winchester & Augusta will be Emediately Cut off — I am truly sensible nothing in your Power will be Wanting — I have Done every thing in mine —

Am Obliged to set out to consult some Skilful Physition —

May the Guardian Powers Protect you my Worthy Friend & give me leave

Dear Sir

to subscribe myself

Your Most Obliged

Hu<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

R<sup>t</sup> RUTHERFORD.

WINCHESTER 6<sup>th</sup> June 1758

FROM COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS.

June 10<sup>th</sup> 1758.

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I have sent you 4 p<sup>k</sup> Blankets w<sup>ch</sup> contain 60 Blankets, as I have no receipt for them shall be Oblig'd to you to give one to M<sup>r</sup> James Strawhan,

to let Escape if ever in your power Nor are you to Expose your men Rashly I Depend greatly on your Resolution Care and Conduct in Keeping your Men in a Deep sense of their duty as men & Christians and the Constant care they owe to their fellow subjects in this Branche of Business

I wish you success —

& am your Respectful Friend

R RUTHERFORD

Given at WINCHESTER }  
the 22<sup>d</sup> of may 1758 }

or the Cash w<sup>ch</sup> will be more acceptable as it often proves Troublesome getting of it below.

I am y<sup>r</sup> most Hum<sup>e</sup> Servant

FIELDING LEWIS

A Bale ~~WRW~~N<sup>o</sup> 2

Col<sup>o</sup> Washington for the Country D<sup>r</sup>

To 60 Blankets @ 11/6 . . . .	£ 34: 10 — 0
Package & Cord . . . . .	2: 6

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34: 12: 6

Dot<sup>r</sup> Halkerston desires me to inform you that he has never rec<sup>d</sup> a farthing of his last Acc<sup>t</sup> given in ~~to~~ the against the Country, and says that he hopes you will assist him in getting of it as you directed him to take care of the Sick. The acc<sup>t</sup> am<sup>ts</sup> to Eighty Five Pounds & upwards.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Thompson is arriv'd in Potomack from London

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*Orders for Colonel Washington commanding the Troops of the Colony of Virginia.*

As you will receive near 700 Arms for the 2<sup>d</sup> Virginia Regiment from Williamsburg, you are to take into your Store at Winchester the Maryland Arms which were deliverd to the 2<sup>d</sup> Regiment, these Arms are to be delivered to Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe or his Order.

The same proportion of Tools that the 1<sup>st</sup> Company of Artificers had, to be delivered to the 2<sup>d</sup> Company, with an addition of 12 Pick Axes and 12 Spades or Shovels. The half of the Sand Bags at Winchester to be sent to Connsgochieg, and the other

half will serve to carry up to Fort Cumberland the Corn that may be got about Winchester and the South Branch :—

Five Companies of the first Virginia Regiment to begin their March for Fort Cumberland the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, with the 2<sup>d</sup> Company of Artificers of the 2<sup>d</sup> Regiment. Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd with as many Companies as are ready of his Regiment to March the 26<sup>th</sup> and the Rest of that Regiment to follow with Lieut<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Mercer so soon as they can be got ready.

One Company of the 2<sup>d</sup> Regiment to be station'd at Job Pearalls and Edwards on the South Branch & Edwards's till all the Convoys of Provision's have passd and then to join — Whatever Escorts are required by M<sup>t</sup> Commissary Walker are to be furnished to him ; he is to lay in Provisions for 1800 Men for Six Weeks at Fort ~~Loudoun~~<sup>Cumberland</sup> from the day of their arrival, and victual them on their March. The Officers are only to draw single Ration's of Provisions for themselves as the Gen<sup>l</sup> has no more

Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewarts Troop of Light Horse are to March up to Fort Cumberland. 30 Barrels of Powder and 100 Boxes of Shott to be carried from Fort Loudoun with 8 Whip Saws to Fort Cumberland. — Given under my Hand at Conegocheague this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 1758

JOHN S<sup>t</sup> CLAIR

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FROM MR. JOHN PATTERSON.

HONOURABLE S<sup>r</sup>

I return you thanks, for Complying with my requests & hope to giv<sup>e</sup> content for your goodness — I shall take y<sup>e</sup> Roof off y<sup>e</sup> House,<sup>1</sup> as soon as y<sup>e</sup> Carpenters gets y<sup>e</sup> Laths for to shingle on ; having y<sup>e</sup> chief of y<sup>e</sup> Work fream'd at this Instant, I shall want two inch plan for to Cover y<sup>e</sup> Balustrade, & am of Opinion that Pine, is before Oak for that purpose. But if you think proper to have y<sup>e</sup> Latter, y<sup>e</sup> Carpen-

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<sup>1</sup> At Mount Vernon.

ters can get it. Likewise its requisite y<sup>e</sup> weather-boarding th<sup>a</sup> is up, & will be, had a coat of Paynt, for which I spoke to M<sup>r</sup> Washington & he desir'd I would make Uce of y<sup>e</sup> red Paynt, when Oyle was got; y<sup>e</sup> sooner y<sup>e</sup> better that y<sup>e</sup> Work may not suffer. The s<sup>d</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> desir'd I would write, what M<sup>r</sup> Possey Kitchen amounted to, y<sup>e</sup> Value whereof being fourteen Pound. And y<sup>e</sup> other work View'd by M<sup>r</sup> Adams Six. Depend Sir on my deligence to forward y<sup>e</sup> Work, & will stick to it early & laite til finish'd; & shall allways make it my study to please & serve a Gen<sup>l</sup> that has done me such a singular piece of Service I remain Hon<sup>r</sup><sup>ble</sup> Sir with y<sup>e</sup> greatest respect Your Honours Most

Oblig'd, Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN PATTERSON.<sup>1</sup>

June y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1758

P. S S<sup>r</sup> please to send y<sup>e</sup> Walnut plank  
with y<sup>e</sup> Oyles, The Demensions is  
6 feet long by 1: 6<sup>f</sup> Broad & 6<sup>In</sup> thick.

FROM MR. HUMPHREY KNIGHT.<sup>2</sup>

SIR

I Receiv<sup>d</sup> yours by M<sup>r</sup> Posey and Emeadiatley wrote up to you to acquaint you of all affairs but fearfull the Letter miscarride, I instantly proceeded in

<sup>1</sup> From Washington's ledger it appears that John Patterson was engaged in this work, as overseer, from December 20, 1757, to September 15, 1759, for which he received £335. o. 5. This included supplies.

<sup>2</sup> Washington's overseer.

Geting Possey work Vallued and after it was Vallued to Settle with him, he told me at first he would pay the hole acct, but afterwards would pay but £25: 0: 0 which you will see in his Credit, I have sent his Acct and Credit in the Letter which I hope will Safeley Get to you I Expect to Discharge moxleys acct which is in the hands of M<sup>r</sup>: Piper at Court, I Expect all the rents in next week without fail, I shall act according to your orders in paying piper, John Berry Refuses to pay what adams Vallued his work to the other people is willing to pay and I believe ready but not without an Order from you or M<sup>r</sup>: John Aug<sup>t</sup>: washington Sir I hope you will not be Douptfull of my ~~Digles~~ Diligence in your business Ile Loose my life before any thing should Go amiss if I can help it, our people has bin very sickly which has hurt us and a Great Deal of hinderence in building which I hope your H<sup>r</sup>: will Consider y<sup>e</sup>: fraime is all sawd but the Leaths which will soon be done y<sup>e</sup>: house will be raisd next week, M<sup>r</sup>: Grymes has had 6 hh<sup>ds</sup>: of Sweet Scented Tob<sup>co</sup> from muddy hole which is all of that sort and 3 hh<sup>d</sup> which Come from the mountain Quar<sup>rs</sup> which was to light & I Carried Tob<sup>co</sup> from muddy hole and repriz<sup>d</sup> & maid one heavier In all M<sup>r</sup>: Grymes has had 9 Plese to Excuse our making So little Tob<sup>co</sup> I hope we Shall make a good Crop this year I have planted Seventy thousand and Shall finish next season our Corn is very likely and in good Order y<sup>e</sup>: water fails at the mill Very mutch I sent in the other letter how mutch Corn She has got sence Christmas and wheat All our stock is well and a fine parcell of Lambs the

roan mairs Colt goes very fast, I Deliv<sup>d</sup> to the Sloop belonging to Norfolk 168<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> bushels of wheat which was all we could Get ready and I Deliv<sup>d</sup> the Receipt to Col<sup>o</sup> Carlisle their is few people in our County will plant their Crops Our wheat is midling Likeley our oats is very good we sew<sup>d</sup> <sup>of oats</sup> 90 bushels I have Draw<sup>d</sup> Poseys acct of ~~of~~ the book right and set Down all his Credit I shall be Diligent in geting your Debts in and all other things I hope, and shall with Safety Keep the money for you or your order and Should be glad to see Your Hon<sup>r</sup> Down at your Estate in fairfax County

I am Sir your Most Hble Servant to Com<sup>d</sup>  
HUMPHREY KNIGHT

MOUNT VERNON  
16<sup>th</sup> June 1758

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FROM COLONEL JOHN ST. CLAIR.

CARLISLE June 18<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

Yesterday at Noon I was favour'd with your Letter of the 14<sup>th</sup>.<sup>1</sup> with several others enclosed in it. I hope by the time you receive this that you have got the better of all your difficultys, but after all that has been done if any thing is wanting let me know it and I shall bring it with me to fort Cumberland.

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<sup>1</sup> Washington returned to Fort Loudoun the night of the 13th of June, and, finding letters there addressed to Colonel St. Clair, forwarded them. Concerning these letters he observed: "I should hardly have opened them, notwithstanding you desired me to do so (with any that might be directed to you at this place relative to the public service), had not Col. Byrd, the bearer, advised it; conceiving there was something contained in them which I might be preparing to execute." This is but one of the many evidences of the implicit confidence reposed in Washington, and of his own strict observance in such matters.

I must beg you will send me to this place 8 or 10 of Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewarts light Horse with an Officer and for an Example to the Pennsylvanians I shoud be glad <sup>of</sup> those that are best mounted.

I send you all the News that I can pick up so that I need not repeat what you see in Print. M<sup>r</sup> Hoops writes to M<sup>r</sup> Walker about provisions.

I shall represent to the General the difficiency of Bayonets to Col<sup>l</sup> Byrds Reg<sup>t</sup> if he thinks them necessary he has it now in his power to supply them. I expect the Gen<sup>l</sup> will leave Philadelphia this Week.

I beg you will make my Compliments to all the Gentlemen of the Virginia Brigade, I am with a most Sincere Reg<sup>d</sup>

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Your most obedient and most  
humble Servant

JOHN S<sup>t</sup> CLAIR

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FROM JAMES SINCLAIR, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

CARLISLE 20 June 1758.

SIR,

I am desired by Sir John S<sup>t</sup> Clair to acquaint you it is his desire that you send six men of the light horse that he already required to the mouth of Conogockuk, to escort Mr. Glen<sup>2</sup> the late Gov<sup>r</sup> of S. Carolina from thence to Winchester, where he is going

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<sup>1</sup> "James Sinclair, *Esqre*," aide-de-camp to Colonel St. Clair. In indicating the names and ranks of the writers of the letters, the editor follows Washington's own wording, as shown by his indorsements on the originals.

<sup>2</sup> James Glen.

to meet Col. Boyd with instructions from Gen! Forbes relating to Indian affairs.

I am, Sir, Y<sup>r</sup> most obed serv<sup>t</sup>

JAMES SINCLAIR

A D C M G

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FROM JOSEPH WOLGAMOTE.

*MARY*

ISLAND CONNIGOCHIG June y<sup>r</sup> 20th 1758.

May it Pleas Your honers Gentlemen it not With any Pleasure that I Give You This Trouble Therefore I hope You Will Excuse the freedom I have Taken With You it is from the Good personal Carrecture You bear As to adhearing Strictly to Do or Cause Justice to be Done by all Such Persons As You have the honour to Command Therefore it is to You only that I Adress my Self To for Justice The Matter is As followeth Cap<sup>t</sup> Feilos Came to my house With A parceil of Wagins Said to belong To A Sutler And Turned All Their horses into my medow that was fit to mow I Applied To the Cap<sup>t</sup> And Complained of the Hardship Who Replied if I Was Displeased With What he had Done he Would Turn them into my Grain And Confine me A prisoner Also And in As much As All Wagins Are hired by the Day I am of Opinion they have No Right to Any thing but What They pay for And in As much As I Am one of Them Whose Lot it is to be one of the Distresed fronters family Not Dareing to Go out to Worke Even to Raise Bread This Treatment from Such As Ought to be

our Protectors is unjust And What We Could Only Expect from The Enemy And Ading Distres on Distrest persons in Stead of Protection You Are not un Sencable how hard it Was And is With Such As had the Lot of being The Frontears As Well as my Self Therefore I hope You Will Cause Justice To be Done me by Which it Will Induce me To Acknowledg And Confeirm That Good Car-recture of You Which I have heard of You before As Well As my own private Opinion

I am Gentel men Your Obeadent Humble

Servant

To Command

JOSEPH WOLGAMOTE

FROM JOHN KIDD.

SIR

I have made Inquiry Concerning the 200 Hatchets Mention'd in your's but has yet got no Information Concer<sup>n</sup>ing them

I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Obed<sup>t</sup> h<sup>ble</sup> servt

JN<sup>o</sup> KIDD

CONEGOCHEAGUE 21<sup>st</sup> June 1758

List of Sundry's from Carlyle

Kettles . . . . .	171
Canteens . . . . .	465
Barrels of Powder Horns . . . . .	3
Saddles . . . . .	18
Box of Furniture for Ditto . . . . .	1
Spades . . . . .	12
Picks . . . . .	12

FROM COLONEL JOHN ST. CLAIR.<sup>1</sup>CARLILE THE 22<sup>d</sup> June 1758

SIR

I am extremely sorry that a great Quantity of Powder Horns for the second Virginia Regiment were sent up from this place before my Arrival, so there will be no possibility of getting them for you untill you arrive at Fort Cumberland, you must do the best that you can without them. I hope you have received the Kettles & Canteens from the mouth of Conegogie, I have received the three hundred Arms that was sent there, but by mistake they have sent me up the two hundred Hatchets, which likewise shall be sent up to you to Fort Cumberland. I have enclosed you a march Route for a hundred of the N: Carolina Provincials that ought to be at Winchester, they will serve for an Escort for M<sup>r</sup> Walkers second Convoy of Provisions. You'll please tell the Commanding Officer that any Carriages he may want upon his march shall be paid for upon his giving them a Certificate of their Service. The other two hundred of them that arrived at Alexandria are to march up by Fort Frederick I wish you with all my heart a good march and hope soon to have the pleasure of Joining you. My Compliments to M<sup>r</sup> Commissary Walker, tell him a Commissary is sent down to Alexandria to take Care of the N: Carolina

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<sup>1</sup> Addressed to Colonel Washington, "or the Commanding Officer at Winchester."

Provincials there and that he'll be so good as victual those at Winchester.

I am Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> &  
most humble servant

JOHN S<sup>T</sup> CLAIR

The Black is arrived<sup>1</sup>

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FROM COLONEL FIELDING LEWIS.

June 25<sup>th</sup> 1758.

DEAR SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> yours inclosing Forty Pound w<sup>ch</sup> I have placed to your Credit,<sup>2</sup> and shall settle your Acc<sup>t</sup> with M<sup>r</sup> Strother.

James Gallemore the bearer some time since deserted from Col<sup>o</sup> Byrds Reg<sup>t</sup> and is now return'd on my promise that he shall be excused for it, as he voluntarily surrenders himself I imagine he will meet with a ready Pardon

I am y<sup>r</sup> most

Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

FIELDING LEWIS

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<sup>1</sup> In his letter of June 14 to Colonel St. Clair, Washington wrote: "Among the enclosed you will find a letter from Mr. Strother, concerning the French negro I wrote to him for, by your desire. This Negro is a shrewd, sensible fellow; and may be useful, if he was not sent in to the Inhabitants for the purpose of discoveries, rather than of his own accord, for the purpose of escape. He is well acquainted with the Ohio and its dependancies, but hath been longer from Fort Du Quesne than I at first understood. He will set from this tomorrow with a waggon which I shall send towards Fort Loudoun (in Pennsylvania) and I shall desire that he may be forwarded to you from thence."

<sup>2</sup> Cash paid his brother, Charles Lewis.

FROM BRIGADE MAJOR FRANCIS HALKETT.<sup>1</sup>PHILADELPHIA Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 1758

DEAR WASHINGTON

I Receiv'd your letter yesterday from Connogochieg of the 13<sup>th</sup> June, and I am thoroughly satisfied of your way of thinking, in the importance that Indians<sup>are</sup> of to us, the great application you have given, with the opportunities, and experience<sup>you have had</sup> not only of acquiring the knowledge of their usefulness, but likewise the proper method of managing them, gives you very good pretensions to advise the General how to act with them, it would be doing injustice both to you, & the General, if I did not say that he puts that confidence in your way of thinking, which your merit deserves, nor does the General debar any body from telling their way of thinking, when at the same time he only makes use of that part of their way of thinking, which corresponds with his own, by which means he forms his judgment from the Whole, & acts accordingly, your proposal for a proper person being sent to the Cherokee nation, to remove any disgust that those Indians may have, from the treatment they met with going home, as likewise to endeavour to persuade some of them to Return, & join us, requires a proper attention, and to which the General will pay a due Regard when ever he gets up the Country, as also to the Management of the Indians with us, which till he arrives, can never be

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<sup>1</sup> Addressed to "Colonel Washington, Commanding at Rays Town or Fort Cumberland."

properly Regulated — he leaves this upon Wednesday, and the last of Montgomerys Battalion, & Artillery, Marches to morrow. The last accounts from General Abercromby was, his takeing post at Lake George, no News from the Fleet since they saild from Hallifax, Compliments to Stewart, and I Remain Dear Washington

Yours most sincerely &c  
FRANCIS HALKETT

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FROM CAPTAIN WALTER STEUART.

RAES TOWN June 27<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR, — I Acknowledge the Recc<sup>t</sup> of your Letter by Cap<sup>t</sup> Fields, Inclosing me a Blank Commission ; but his being detain'd so long upon the way to Fort Littleton, prevented my sending ane Express to Winchester, & I was told by Col<sup>l</sup> Bouquet that the day I got your Letter, you was to set off for Fort Cumberland — I Confess myself greatly Obliged to you for your kind offer, and agree with you in oppinion, that a Comp<sup>y</sup> in the Regiment is preferable to the Lieut<sup>y</sup> of the Troop, therefore shall keep the Commission you sent me, & trust to the event of this Campaign for my Continuance —

I am Sir

with due respect

y<sup>r</sup> most Obed<sup>t</sup> hum<sup>le</sup> Servt

WALTER STEUART

PHILAD<sup>d</sup> June 27<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

I had p<sup>r</sup> Spore the pleas<sup>e</sup> of a Letter of 18<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>t</sup> with £196..15..2, Supposed to be from you, there being no name Sign'd, Inclos'd are the Rec<sup>ts</sup> you desire,<sup>1</sup> Seperately, shall be glad to hear the Pack Saddles are Right Sort, the Cost I Sent in a Letter with them.

I wish you a Successfull Campaign, & with great Respect I am  
the Letter p<sup>d</sup> 30/ for

Dear Sir  
y<sup>r</sup> most obeid<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
DAVID FRANKS

---

FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET.<sup>2</sup>

CAMP AT REAS TOWN, 27<sup>th</sup> June 1758

SIR

I hope this Letter will find you Safely arrived at Fort Cumberland; as Soon as you are Settled in

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<sup>1</sup> Philad<sup>d</sup> June 26<sup>th</sup> 1758 Rec<sup>d</sup> of Coll George Washington, One hundred & Ninety Three pounds 16/2 for a Qty halfticks Sent him, & p<sup>r</sup> hands of Jn<sup>o</sup> Spore  
£193..16..2

DAVID FRANKS

Rec<sup>d</sup> philad<sup>d</sup> June 26<sup>th</sup> 1758 From Coll<sup>o</sup> George Washington Two pounds 19/0n  
Acco<sup>t</sup> p<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Spore

DAVID FRANKS

£2..19

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Henry Bouquet, the first in command under General Forbes in the expedition against the French at the head of the Ohio in 1758, was born in Ralle, Switzerland in 1719, and died in Pensacola, Florida, in February, 1766. His taste led him into a military life. He first entered the Dutch service and afterwards that of Sardinia, and in 1748 was again in the service of Holland as lieutenant-colonel of Swiss guards. He entered the English army with the same rank in 1756, and became Colonel of the Sixtieth Foot 19th February, 1762, and brigadier-general in 1765. Secretary William

your Camp, I beg you will begin to cut the Waggon Road to open the Communication between us.

I have ordered Nichols the Pilot to blaze the Road in going, and to Stay w<sup>th</sup> you His Escort may rest one day or two, then come back again.

I have wrote to Col. Byrd to engage the Indians to cover you in your march. I need not recomand you to keep always Strong flanking Parties besides, as you are perfectly acquainted w<sup>th</sup> the dangers of a Sudden attacq.

We have not discovered yet any trac or appearance of Ennemis, but we expect to be harrassed as Soon as they know our position.

M<sup>r</sup>: Walker has not engaged I hear to Supply you for more than a fortnight after your arrival, and it will be necessary therefore that we join here as Soon as possible.

You will be pleased to provide for the Safety of the Fort, in leaving a Sufficient Garrison w<sup>th</sup> Provisions and Ammunition. I think the Maryland Troops could be lefft untill we have further orders from the General.

As I allow no other Pay than one Jill of Rum a day here for common Work as Roads & Intrench-

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Pitt in planning the campaign of 1758 against the French, in North America, assigned Bouquet's troops, the Royal Americans, then in South Carolina, as was also Colonel Montgomery's Highlanders, to place themselves under General Forbes, at Philadelphia. These were the regulars upon whom General Forbes relied. They arrived in Philadelphia early in June, 1758. Bouquet was a man of courage and a soldier of ability, with the large amount of self-conceit and dogmatism so common [then] to British officers. His devotion to duty minimized these limitations in his character as a soldier. It was chiefly through his influence that the new road from Raes Town was opened and the Braddock road ignored, though recommended by Washington, the delay in the making of which came so near the defeating the purposes of the expedition under Forbes. (See the *Washington-Bouquet Letters*.) — TONER.

ments, I beg you will give the Same Allowance to your men

I shall be extremely glad to See you Soon and am w<sup>th</sup> great Regard

Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup>

& most h<sup>ble</sup> servant

HENRY BOUQUET

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FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

CAMP AT RAYSTOWN June 28<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

We arrived at this place on the 24<sup>th</sup> with 500 of the Pennsylvanians — Col. Bouquet designs a place of Some Strength hereabouts — From Shippensburg to Fort Loudon 22 miles from that to F. Littleton extremely bad Road, hilly & stony 20 miles From that to Juniata where there is built a Small Stocade 18 miles From that post to Raystown Camp . . . 14 miles The road from Loudon to Juniata worse by far than any betwixt Cumberland & Duquesne, which has engaged Col. Bouquet to adopt the Scheme of Carrying horses.

I recd the Cash of Cap<sup>t</sup> Fields 20/ Short in the first Sum, and only Currency instead of Sterling from M<sup>r</sup> Lawson.

Messiers Gist and Allen came up with us <sup>the</sup> night before we marched from Littleton, and as it was Col. Bouquets Opinion that you would have left Winchester before they could reach it — He thought it could be no great disappointment to have them join you at F Cumberland. —

Hayton Joind us at this place only two days ago — The Waggon were overloaded & all broke on the Road, without any loss of the Cargo —

There were Regulations made here, by Which two Batmen are Allowed to Each Company, two hatchet & two Camp Colour men clear of all Camp Duty. —

The Gentlemen here will be at a loss for Carrying Saddles, and as there were Some left at Cumberland belonging to Virginia as I imagine; They will be obligd to you for Sending them a Dozen besides paying for them.

The men are a good deal harassd, but we have lost none — I am with respect,

Sir,

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup>: hu<sup>ble</sup>: Ser<sup>vt</sup>:

ADAM STEPHEN.

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FROM MR. JACOB HITE.

SIR

As the Stationing Twenty of cap<sup>t</sup>: Rutherfords men at Fort Loudoun Gives y<sup>e</sup>: Greatest uneasyness to y<sup>e</sup>: Inhabitants In General for Several Reasons First it being Contrary to our Ingagements to y<sup>e</sup>: men on Cap<sup>t</sup>: Rutherfords behalf Secondly y<sup>e</sup>: Grate Incouragement we have by So many Active Men Rangeing on our Frontier Thirdly y<sup>e</sup>: greate Dislike y<sup>e</sup>: men have to be Stationed There — and fourthly the Inactive Company of Militia could Part better be Spared from Pattersons Fort as we cannot

Expect to Receive So much Sattisfaction from the  
hole Company of Militia as we Should Do from  
Them Twenty men Besides other Militia I hope to  
be had

Not as I wood have you Think that we Emagen  
you to be the author of Such orders But that we  
Expect it will be in your Power to have those orders  
Coundermanded and a more Sattisfactorey one Put  
in Execution that Those men may go to Their for-  
mer Station

I heartly wish you your health a Successfull Cam-  
paign and a Safe Return and am Sir

your Friend and Verey Hum Servt

JACOB HITE

June 29<sup>th</sup> 1758

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FROM LIEUTENANT CHARLES SMITH.

FOURT LOUDOUN July 1<sup>st</sup> 1758

SIR

Since Your Departure there is Nothing happened  
Extronery, June the 29<sup>th</sup> I Settle'd with Comis<sup>ary</sup>  
Walker Your Acco<sup>ts</sup> & Your Brothers Which Yours  
was 7809 Pound of Flour which Amounted to  
£39 " 0 " 10 & his Account, Against You for Rum  
was £21 " 13 " 4 The Ballance Rece<sup>d</sup> by me is  
£17 " 7 " 6 & M<sup>r</sup> Washington Acco<sup>t</sup> comes to £7 "  
10 " Which I Rece<sup>d</sup>

Your Over Seear informs me that there was Wheat  
Enough Carried to Purkins Mill for Teen or Eliven  
Thousand Weight of Flour which I Cannot Get no  
Account of only the Above mentioned M<sup>r</sup> Purkins

he Denies as he Knows any thing of but I beleave as You may find out by M<sup>r</sup> Ramsey as M<sup>r</sup> Purkins Sold him a Prety Deal of Flour in Barrells which the Over Sear Says that they were Yours,

I should be glad to Know if I am to Supply the Overseer with a Suffitient Sum of Money for to Secour his harves as he has been at me for Sum,

I hav Setled with the Miner & M<sup>r</sup> Reddiford Accoding to Your Orders, which the Ballance due to Miner was Eight Pound,

I have 28 of the New Ridg<sup>t</sup> Left here Very sick & has a Deal of Trouble with them,

The Raingers that is Lef with me is Very uneasy as they Should kept in a Garrison & Did Refuse Mounting Guards which Six of them Deserted but now is Brought back they seem to be Satisfyd now as Cap<sup>t</sup> Bideford [promised] them if he Can Get them Relevd he will The inhatace is Very uneasy as there was no more men Left here for there Safety, the Most of them sems in a fare way to Move off, without more Assistance, the has been a Small Party of the Ennemy In the Inhabitance best Part of the Time as You have been away but has Dun but Little Mishchief any more then Making the People flye off, from there Farms

I Should be Glad to hav Your Advise at all Opertunities, & to hear of your Health & well fare, from Your Humble Serv<sup>t</sup> to Command

CH<sup>s</sup> SMITH

A WEEKLY RETURN OF THE SOLDIERS LEFT AT FORT LOUDON UNDER THE  
COMMAND OF LEJ CHARLES SMITH

The First Virg <sup>s</sup> Regiment		Rangers		Second Virg <sup>s</sup> Regiment	
0	Cap <sup>t</sup>	0	Cap <sup>t</sup>	0	Cap <sup>t</sup>
1	Leu <sup>t</sup>	0	Leu <sup>t</sup>	0	Leu <sup>t</sup>
0	Ensi <sup>t</sup>	0	Ensi <sup>t</sup>	0	En <sup>s</sup>
1	Serg <sup>t</sup>	1	Serg <sup>t</sup>	1	Serg <sup>t</sup>
1	Drums	0	Drums	0	Drums
33	Rank & File	20	Rank & File	27	Rank & File
23	fit for Duty	18	Fit for Duty	2	fit for Duty
10	Sick	2	Sick	25	Sick
0	on Command	0	on Command	0	on Command
0	on Furlow	0	on Furlow	0	on Furlow
0	Deserted	0	Deserted ; 0 Dead	0	Deserted
0	Dead Since the Las Retu <sup>n</sup>	0		0	Dead
0	Prisoners	21	Total	0	Prisoners
36	Total			28	Total

Total of the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Regiment . . . 36  
of the Rangers . . . . . 21  
of the Second Regiment . . . . . 28  
Total . . . . . 85

CHA<sup>s</sup> SMITH

To GEORGE WASHINGTON Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Col<sup>o</sup> of the First Virginia Regiment

FROM MR. JOHN HITE.<sup>1</sup>

SIR

Our Inhabitants is ~~most~~ all Fled from Messenut-  
ing and we are Generally in Great ~~Expectation~~ Fair  
of the Enemy upon us at Some Quarter or other  
and as we have No other Dependens for any Intili-  
gance But y<sup>e</sup> Ranging Company, and that Being  
Weakend by Party Stationed at Fort Loudoun and  
~~Part at Daniel Holemans Fort~~ I hope therefore you  
will think it Reasonably to alter that Property So  
that Those Rangers May be Restord to their former  
Duty to y<sup>e</sup> Sattisfaction of our Inhabetants in Gen-  
eral

I am Sir with Regard your Sincear friend and  
Hum Servt

J<sup>N</sup><sup>o</sup> HITE

July 2<sup>th</sup> 1758

To

COLL<sup>o</sup> GEORGE WASENTON  
These

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FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.

WINCHESTER the 2<sup>d</sup> of July 1758

DEAR SIR

The Stationing of the Rangers in Fort Loudoun  
gives Such general discontent to the Inhabitants  
that it obliges me to apply to you to Countermand

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<sup>1</sup> John Hite, James Wood, and Robert Rutherford, gentlemen, were commissioners for Frederick County, to examine and state the accounts of provisions, and the pay of the militia, and of the damages done the inhabitants by the Cherokee and Catawba Indians. Hite was also one of the trustees for the enlargement of Winchester, and the building of Stephensburg and Leesburg.

the Orders, or direct me how to apply to have it done — for I am from being a Person of as much Interest, as any among the Common People, become almost Liable to be Stoned. In Short it is so opposite to the Terms of inlisting the Company, and the engagements made with the men & the People in general at the time of their inlisting, that I am not Surprized it Produces things of this nature.

The Inhabitants (whom I have taken Care to inform that those orders were Contrary to your desire) Rely wholly on you for redress as also dos the Company and as the turns of affairs Since the Issuing those Orders are reasons Sufficient for revoking of them Shall hope for your Interposition in this Case, as the Inhabitants of Messanutting and the whole of the upper Part of the County are intirely gone off, which I very Plainly foresaw, for Some time Past, and it will be the Case here if every endeavour is not used to Support and Comfort the People, as the greatest Pannick now Prevails — Whatever I have done was with a view to Serve the Country and have altogether depended on you for Protection and am Sensible that far as Justice is on my Side I may depend on your favour, and it Coud never be offered to me more timely than in this Distressd Sircumstances.

I am sorry to give you this trouble, but am forced by meer Extreemity, and as you are at Present blessed with Health, I hope it will Sit Light on you, Which may every toil you are now intering into and the Hours Pass cheerfully, till you enjoy the inexpressible Sattisfaction of Compleat Victory and Return

with wreaths of Laurel, Elate, with Youth and Success to your friends and fortune, to Compleat and forward which may the Guardian Powers aide is the unfeignd wish of

Dear Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>: greatly affectionate  
and Most Ob<sup>t</sup>

Hble Ser<sup>t</sup>

R. RUTHERFORD.

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FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH.

CAMP AT REAS TOWN

4<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I Desire you'll be so good as forward the inclosed to Cap<sup>t</sup>: Gist that he may not be imposed upon by a Scalp which Capt<sup>n</sup>: Johnny pretends to have taken with his Catawbas, Col<sup>o</sup>: Bouquet is well convinced of the Deceit & desires you will take Care Gist's letter gets to Winchester before Johnny can, The Circumstances are so Strong against him that they admit of no manner of doubt, therefore think he has been sufficiently rewarded for the Service he has done us & deserves not the least Countenance for such a Scandalous attempt,<sup>1</sup> I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you soon & am

D<sup>r</sup>: S<sup>r</sup>

With perfect regard

Your most Obedt Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

A. BOTOMWORTH

My Compl<sup>ts</sup> to Col<sup>o</sup>: Byrd &c<sup>s</sup>:

Please to Seal Gists letter

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<sup>1</sup> According to Colonel Bouquet, the Catawbas under Captain Johnny had behaved

FROM COLONEL BOUQUET.

124

CAMP NEAR REAS TOWN 3<sup>th</sup> July 1758

SIR

General Forbes having ordered a Communication to be opened from Fort Frederic to Cumberland; I must desire that you will order three Hundred men (Including the Maryland Troops under your Command) to begin to cut on your Side the Said Road already blazed towards Fort Frederic, and to proceed until they meet the 500 men employed to cut from F<sup>t</sup> Frederic. They must have Waggons to carry their Tools, Rum, and Provisions.

If you want Tools, Please to apply to Sir John S<sup>t</sup> Clair, or to Governor Sharpe.

Besides that Detachment, you will garrison Fort Cumberland, and with the remainder of your Troops, open the Road to Reas Town, where I hope to have Soon the Pleasure to See you, and Col. Byrd.

I am with the highest regard

Sir

Your most obedient  
and most hble servant  
HENRY BOUQUET

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in a most shameful manner and run away, he wrote, like a parcel of thieves rather than warriors. They had never even killed a deer, and Colonel Bouquet had every reason to suspect that this scalp, which they pretended to have taken, was an old one. When Washington wrote to Governor Fauquier, he touched on the Catawbas, who had "so egregiously misbehaved."

FROM GABRIEL JONES.<sup>1</sup>D<sup>R</sup> SIR

The Writs for Election being so long on their way that it was y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> (our Court day) before they came to y<sup>e</sup> Sherifs hands, made it Impossible to have y<sup>e</sup> Election before the 24<sup>th</sup> as y<sup>e</sup> Law directs 20 day's between y<sup>e</sup> time they come to hand & that day of Election. I am sorry to find that y<sup>e</sup> people & those whom I took to be y<sup>r</sup> friends in a great measure change their sentiments & now raise doubts in M<sup>rs</sup>es<sup>2</sup> that seem to be clear w<sup>th</sup> them before, this is y<sup>e</sup> consequence of y<sup>e</sup> back being turned — your Potowmack<sup>people</sup> I am afraid will not be stedfast they talk now of the Old Burgesses. West has been two days w<sup>th</sup> them, & intends to be very busy till y<sup>e</sup> time comes.

Col<sup>o</sup> Martin publickly accused<sup>him</sup> with some low transactions, which the other could not clear up, & stands condemned by some of his best friends for such scandalous proceedings — the whole m<sup>re</sup> is to be laid open the day of the Election. Col<sup>o</sup> G. Fairfax will be up & am in hopes will make a great Alteration upon Potowmack the disturbance in Col<sup>o</sup> Hites neighbourhood is occasioned by y<sup>e</sup> Ranger's being garrisoned — if the removing this Obstacle could be

<sup>1</sup> Gabriel Jones was appointed deputy attorney of Augusta County, April 14, 1746, "as a fit person to transact his majesty's affairs in this county," and qualified the following May. He was a learned lawyer, and married a Miss Strother, of Stafford County, a sister of Mrs. Thomas Lewis and Mrs. Madison, mother of Bishop Madison. Peyton's *History of Augusta County*. At this period Washington's friend was also actively engaged as county commissioner on the militia, town building, etc. This letter was written on the eve of Washington's election to the Virginia House of Burgesses.

<sup>2</sup> Matters.

consistent with y<sup>e</sup> Interest of the Country & your Duty should be heartily. there is now y<sup>e</sup> Carolina forces in y<sup>e</sup> Fort.

The late blow in Massanutting & the Harvest will prevent a great many from being down, this I don't think will prejudice you so much as my other friend,<sup>1</sup> his Interest I think declines among the Quakers where I imagine your's is pretty good, in short affairs are totally changed & may be many times so yet before y<sup>e</sup> day, your being elected absolutely depends on your presence that day, this is y<sup>e</sup> Opinion of every thinking friend & therefore must in y<sup>e</sup> most pressing manner desire it. it happened very unluckily that the writs was so long delayed as it was the Case in Augusta. so that both Election's will interfere, however as I have undertaken to serve <sup>you</sup> no Consideration shall deter me from it. I shall give up mine, in order to be at your's, where if possible I hope you'l be. I think I have said every thing that y<sup>e</sup> little time I have to spare allows me, only be assured of the best endeavour's of

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> most Obed<sup>t</sup> &c<sup>a</sup>

GABRIEL JONES

WINCHESTER

July 6<sup>th</sup> 58.

P. S. Pray tell Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart I shall kindly think of him till he return's

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Washington, Colonel F. B. Martin, Mr. Hugh West, and Thomas Swearingen, were the candidates for Frederick County.

FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

WINCHESTER 6<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I received your very welcome favour from Pearsals — and embrace your kind offers of Correspondence, with the highest pleasure — truly sensible of the Honour you do me. —

The disapointment I met with in not seeing you before march<sup>s</sup> gave me much concern — and your necessary hurry, plague and perplexities — attending the preparations for the field — plead an excuse for not writing you — satisfied of your dispositions to think me incapable of declining a Friendship which every Motive of Gratitude bids me esteem in the warmest manner — and this kind instance Confirms me, I share your friendly regard — in condescending to Communicate your intelligence, and make me a Correspondant — 'tis a favour. I greatly Value — and will omit no means on my part to continue and Establish a lasting intercourse —

You have no doubt, many disagreeable & fatiguing matters to engage with — 'tis the case of a Military profession — which your good sense and prudence enables you to support w' wonder — By this time I suppose You at Rays town — from whence a Road we hear is to be open'd to Fort Cumberland — and thro' that Fort the Rout of Your Army is intended — we are also told the General is got to the Camp — tho' Reports are very false —

Our news here and below — are very trifling — Election of Burgesses take up the whole talk at

present — this County Chuse their Representatives the 24<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> — when your presence will avail Vastly to accomplish your point — the promises of the Vulgar are too precarious to build your hopes upon — unless you could attain to influence their performance — they entertain a notion of the inconvenience you lye under of attending the Assembly and defending them at the same time — but, you could speedily reconcile that paradox was it suitable to be here —

The candidates for Fairfax are Col<sup>o</sup> Mason — Cha<sup>s</sup> Broadwater — and Geo: Johnston — the days of Election for Loudoun & Fairfax happen both the 20<sup>th</sup> which will weaken Col<sup>o</sup> Lee's interest, & it is thought occasion him to be Drop't —

Yesterday 120 North Carolina Men arrived here — they waite orders, for some necessarys to enable them for following you — Winchester has lost its attractions to me, since your departure — All are Dull & dead — Tho' the Court call'd me hither — on Business — yet I am uneasy to begone — When Your Complements shall be duely deliverd your Friends — Continue Your Correspondence & believe me unfeign'dly D<sup>r</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Your Sincere Serv<sup>t</sup> & Obliged —

JN<sup>o</sup> KIRKPATRICK

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FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

SIR,

I congratulate you on your Arrival at Fort Cumberland; <sup>1</sup> It would have saved Us a deal of trouble

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<sup>1</sup> On the 2d of July.

to have taken the Same Route — From 800, which is about our Number here, besides Cap<sup>t</sup> Field's Company There is about 200 on Guard & 150 at the different Works every day. The Engineers have made Choice of a piece of Ground very much resembling that on which F Cumberland Stands, only not So strong

A Detachment of the Pennsylvanians went towards Laurel-Hill in order to discover a Road that way, but returnd without any Satisfactory Account—

There has been no Sign of the Enemy about Us since we incamped at this place —

The first week we were at Raystown our men were so dispersed in Scouting parties, Commands and work, that Col Bouquet did not receive a Return of Troops under his Command at this Place before last Sunday — I am with respect

Sir

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup> hu<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN

CAMP AT RAYSTOWN  
July 6<sup>th</sup> 1758

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FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH.

CAMP AT REAS TOWN 7<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I take this opportunity of acquainting you that I have sent off this morning 24 Pickt Warriors to Fort Du Quesnes, with Orders to take a Prisoner if possible, and make what Discoveries they can about the Fort; I make no doubt from the good Opinion I have of them, but on their Return we shall receive

some Intelligence of the Strength and Motions of the Enemy. Col<sup>o</sup> Bouquet has thought proper to send Williams and Vaughan two Serjeants of your Reg<sup>t</sup> along with them, to prevent Imposition, and desired me to inform you that all our Indians are now distinguished by a yellow Badge, or Fillett which they wear round their Heads, or tye about their Arms or Breast, as they think best and are very conspicuous, & easily seen at a distance in the woods. You'll therefore please Direct the Same Marks to be affixed to all those Indians with you at Cumberland and let them know they are never to appear from Camp without them, as by Neglect thereof, they will be deemed Enemies and fired upon by the White People; You will therefore be so good as recommend the Strict Observance of this Distinction in the Strongest Terms you can, to prevent the fatal Effects of killing one another & Communicate the same to Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd on his Arrival, & in case any of his People should go a Scouting, or be sent to the French Fort he will take Care they are all distinguished in the manner described, I have sent you a Pattern enclosed & am

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

With all Sincerity

Your much Obliged Hble Servant

A. BOTTOMWORTH

My best Compl<sup>s</sup> to Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd

& all your Gentlemen

I shall be glad to hear from you if your Time will permit we hear nothing extraordinary at this Camp but wait in daily expectation of the Arrival of the

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General & the Artillery — I have heard nothing yet about the Canteens which I wrote to Philad<sup>a</sup> for but dare say they will be here soon.

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FROM JAMES WOOD.<sup>1</sup>

SIR

The 24<sup>th</sup> of this month is appointed the day for the election. Mr. Jones has promised to be here. I wish with him & the rest of your friends that it was possible you could be present to give life to the cause. I have done my endeavor to search into the opinions of the people, and cannot perceive your interest on the decline, tho' some try to persuade me to the contrary. I must own experience has convinced me there is no relying on the promises of the common herd, the promise is too often forgot when the back is turned. There are many of us embarked in the same cause with you, and a disappointment will set heavy on us. If the duty of your station will permit, come down and show your face.<sup>2</sup> I think I can then promise success. If you cannot, depend nothing in my power shall be wanting to promote

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<sup>1</sup> The Associate of Gabriel Jones. It was Colonel Wood who sat on the bench and represented or took the poll for Washington, and who was "carried round the town in the midst of a general applause and huzzaring for Colonel Washington." Joseph Carroll was clerk of Washington's poll.

<sup>2</sup> Having resolved to quit the army at the close of the present campaign, Colonel Washington had proposed himself to the Electors of Frederick County, as a candidate for the House of Burgesses. The election was now approaching, and some of his friends had urged him to be at Winchester on that occasion, fearing the successful activity of three rival candidates. Regarding his duties in the army, however, as outweighing the considerations of personal interest, he remained at his post, and the election was carried through without his presence. — SPARKS.

your interest. Mrs. Wood and the rest of the family send their compliments.

I am, Sir, with respect,  
Y<sup>r</sup> humble serv<sup>t</sup>

J. WOOD.<sup>1</sup>

WINCHESTER 7 July 1758.

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FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET.

CAMP NEAR REAS TOWN 8<sup>th</sup> July 1758

SIR

The only Reason I had to desire you to march w<sup>th</sup> your Troops to Reas Town was the Scarcity of your Provisions, as it would otherwise not be adviseable to move you, till the General is fully determined upon the different Roads.

As I See that you can be Subsisted for a Sufficient time, you will Stay at Cumberland till further orders.

All your Waggons must be Sent immediately back for the other Convoy. Keeping only with you the number wanted to carry Provisions to the 300 men who are cutting this Road taking the Same precaution for the 200 Marylanders who are to cut towards Fort Frederic.

As I have not here a Number of Troops sufficient for all the different Services of Partys, Escorts, & Works, You will be pleased to Send me to morrow a detachment of 200 men by the Path, and as your

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<sup>1</sup> From a copy. Throughout the original manuscript collection of the *Letters to Washington* there are copies of letters inserted in lieu of the original letter. The originals were given away probably by Bushrod Washington when the manuscripts were at Mount Vernon.

Troops are allowed Bat money, I Suppose that you may provide them w<sup>th</sup> the necessary Carrying Horses for their Tents.

I Shall in the beginning of next Week open our Communication on this Side to meet your 300 men.

I have ordered a Party of 100 men on the other Side of the Allegheny. —

M<sup>r</sup>: Fraser the Cap<sup>t</sup> of the Guides, and J<sup>o</sup>: Walker being best acquainted w<sup>th</sup> the different Path, I Shall be obliged to you to Send them both to me to morrow.

General Abercrombie has taken Possession of the Lakes; Gen<sup>l</sup>: Forbes was expected at Carlisle the first Inst. no Letters from him. I am, Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup>

hble Servant

HENRY BOUQUET

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FROM MR. WILLIAM POOLE.<sup>1</sup>

Most honourabel Cornal this with Great Submishon and i hope with out a fens and i hope your honour is in good health, i have hear made Bold to let you no the Qualatys of your mill i have in gande now gaind 604 Barel of Corn and Sixteen Barel of wheat and have in gaind a Great Deal of Custum from meariland as well as heare and now She fails for want of water By reason of a good Deel of Dry weather which makes me Sorry that i cant grind faster for your Customers and by have in soCloes in

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<sup>1</sup> Washington's mill superintendent and one of his tenants.

ploy with the mill the fore part of the year it has hind ard me from tendin the ground which i was to have and by M<sup>r</sup> John Washingtons Desiers i throd up the ground to humphry Knight and M<sup>r</sup> John washington told me he would be bound your honour would Sattis fy me for it in which i make no Dout of your honours goodness as i am reaDy to obay and have in a Large famalea to maintane i must in Deaver for a maintaneance for them in which i hope youre honour wont tak it amiss and that you will bepleast to let me no in time if i am to minde the mill argane and upon what tirms as i Can maintane my famalea i be in very willin to serv your honour with out hurtin my Self the hors which your Brother put here Dy<sup>d</sup> with a Distemper which is a great Dis a pointment to the meariland Custumars and now Sur i must begg a line as to from your honour that i ma no what i have to Doo up on which i Shall rely. and so to Conclud from your humbel Servant at Command

A  
WILLIM POOLE miller  
July y<sup>e</sup> 9: 1758

To  
The HONOURABEL CURNAL GEORGE  
WASHINGTON — att Win Chester or  
Elsewhere  
This.

---

FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH.

CAMP AT RAYS TOWN 11<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> your favor of the 6<sup>th</sup> and Communicated the Contents to Colonel Bouquet; I acquainted you in

my last of a Party of 24 Indians being gone off to Fort Du Quesne, when they come near the Place they will divide into two or three small Parties by which means we shall have the greater Chance of getting a Prisoner, I expect them back in 14 days when I hope to send you good news, I really believe the French are but weak & that there are but few Indians at Du Quesne tho' Moskingo is so far distant that there's little Dependance upon the Intelligence we receive from that Quarter, I hear Paris has Carried the Indians who took the Scalp in all 17 down to Fort Loudoun & is now on the road to this place; Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis arrived here last night Col<sup>o</sup> Bouquet is mightily pleased with their Dress,<sup>1</sup> I am D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

A. BOTOMWORTH

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FROM MR. CHRISTOPHER HARDWICK.

BULLSKIN July y<sup>r</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 1758.

HON<sup>BLE</sup> COL<sup>o</sup>

This Serves to inform you that all's Well Since you left this or my seeing you last. Likewise Serves to inform you of the great Drought Since then, that I have not had a Season to Plant one Single Plant.

---

<sup>1</sup> Washington had equipped Major Lewis's companies with the Indian costume. In writing on this subject to Colonel Bouquet he said: "My men are bare of regimental cloathing and I have no prospect of a supply. So far from regretting this want during the present campaign, if I were left to pursue my own inclinations, I would not only order the men to adopt the Indian dress, but cause the officers to do it also, and be the first to set the example myself. Nothing but the uncertainty of obtaining the general approbation causes me to hesitate a moment to leave my regimentals at this place, and proceed as light as any Indian in the woods. It is an unbecoming dress, I own; but convenience rather than show, I think, should be consulted." It appears that Colonel Bouquet so much approved of "the dress" that he encouraged the army to adopt it.

Every thing fit to Burn up with heat if any Should offer though late I Shall use my best Industry that Way. The Wheat is now Ripe which Shall be laid up as soon and as Safe as Possible, I am at loss in regard to the hands after harvest is over if there's no Tob<sup>o</sup> Made Should be glad of Advice Whether to let or Agree with M<sup>r</sup> Stephen's About them to Cut Wood as I am very Willing to do the best I can — I should be glad to know when to let the two Pigs loose which you had of M<sup>r</sup> Dick they are grown very large

I conclude with the greatest regard  
Your honours most humble

Servant

CHRISTOPHER HARDWICK

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FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET.

CAMP NEAR REAS TOWN 11 July 1758

SIR

Major Lewis with the two hundred men under his command arrived here last night. I am extremely obliged to you for this extraordinary despatch. Their dress should be our pattern in this expedition.

The mistake of the 6000 of flour is a great disappointment. I beg you will continue to supply provisions for the Maryland troops, as they are to be supplied by the crown. As soon as the communication will be opened, I will replace what may be consumed. We begin tomorow to cut the road on this

side to meet Col. Mercer & save him the trouble of going so far.

I have heard nothing of General Forbes since the 19<sup>th</sup> June.

With the most sincere regard,  
Yr most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv  
HENRY BOUQUET.

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FROM COLONEL GEORGE MERCER.

SIR

The four days provision we brought from fort Cumberland exclusive of Monday, will be exhausted tomorrow night, & as I am so little advanced, & no waggon road to Raes Town I find it impossible to send there for a supply.

I have detached a serjeant & 15 men with 3 waggons which I beg you will despatch to me again to day with provision. I imagine what those 3 waggons will bring, may carry us at least so near, if not to Raes Town, that I shall not be troublesome to you again upon this head.

The woods are open here, but as I have orders to make the road wide, I find it very difficult to clear the timber being all large. A road for one waggon might be cleared as fast as it could drive, we only cleared half a mile the day before yesterday, Yesterday we made out more than two but we are now encamped only 6 miles from you. I had a most violent fit of the ague & fever Tuesday, which confined me all day from 8 in the morning to a waggon, & did not leave me till the same hour next morning.

There were 2 barrels of powder put into the waggons for us of which I informed M<sup>r</sup> Kennedy, & he took out one in my presence. The other the Waggoner suffered too to be taken from him by a little serjeant in a green waistcoat (he says) by the description Sir our quarter master serjeant; of whom I much suspect such a thing as I know him to be very ignorant, impudent & stupid. I beg you order me another barrel as our men are not at all fully supplied & in case of an accident, we have no remedy save two boxes of ball. Pray Sir dont allow the waggons to be overloaded.

If I have my health dont doubt but I will be very diligent in completing the road, but I assure you 2 or 3 more fits will make me incapable of any thing.

I am

Sir

Your most obedient & humble

Servant

GEO. MERCER <sup>1</sup>

Camp 6 miles from }  
 Fort Cumberland }  
 July 12<sup>th</sup> 1758. } or CAPT WAGGONERS

If any of the men of my company which I left behind sick are recovered, I hope you'll please to order them to join me with this command as I am very weak here.

---

<sup>1</sup> From a copy.

FROM MR. HUMPHREY KNIGHT.

SIR,

I wrote to you as often as proper but fearfull Some of the Letters miscarried I sent you an Acc<sup>t</sup> of all I Rec<sup>d</sup> and what is Due to you, by the boøcks M<sup>r</sup> John Aug<sup>t</sup> washington Left with me, I shall be Cairfull and Dilligent you may be sure In Your business an all Acc<sup>ts</sup> I have paid M<sup>r</sup> Piper and Rec<sup>d</sup> all Rents and Cash I Can and Shall Render a Just Acc<sup>t</sup> you need not Doupt, the Great house was Rais<sup>d</sup> about 6 Days ago the bricks is all burnt, in Quantanty 16000 Sixteen thousand all things Goes on well I hope, our negros & stock [mutilated] Well your Colts Groes well, we have [mutilated] Planting which is a Strang thing in our Parts but short seasons and hot weather some is mising but we Shall be Diligent in making it Good When a season permits, I shall work the Carpntr<sup>s</sup> to your advantage I hope and all the Rest of your people that I am Consernd with We have a very fine Crop of Corn and in Good Order I am Sir Your Very Hble Serv<sup>t</sup> to Com<sup>d</sup>

HUMPHRY KNIGHT

ALEXANDRIA July 13<sup>th</sup> 1758

FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

CAMP AT RAES-TOWN July 13<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR,

Inclosd is a Return of the Strength of the Six Companies at this Place. —

I wish you would order by the first Opportunity Breech-Clouts for the men; Send the Paymaster and the Store Accounts, in order the Officers of Companies might have time to Settle those matters before the General Arrives, when Some of us will be Orderd to pass the mountains, & perhaps have no Opportunity of Joining again, before We get in a place too much hurried for Settling Acc<sup>ts</sup>

I doubt not but you will think it proper to have all the mens Cloaths at one place, before we march and as it is uncertain which way they march across the mountains, it would be adviseable to lodge them at Fort Cumberland as soon as possible.

I receivd no orders about the New Coats Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis brought along with him, but imagine you will have all your Regiment, dress or reg<sup>t</sup> undress in the Same Manner. It will be necessary the Q<sup>r</sup>master comes with the Paymaster, to prevent any disputing accounts

I am with respect

Sir

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup> hub<sup>le</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN

*A Return of the Six Companies of the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Reg<sup>t</sup> encamp<sup>t</sup> at Rays Town Under y<sup>e</sup> Comm<sup>d</sup> of L<sup>t</sup>*

*Col<sup>o</sup>. Stephens July y<sup>e</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup> 1758.*

Companies	Officers						Effective Rank and File						
	Commissioned					Non Commiss <sup>d</sup>			Fit for Duty Sick Hatchett, Camp Col <sup>r</sup> and Bat Men	Total			
	Col <sup>o</sup>	L <sup>t</sup> Col <sup>o</sup>	Major	Cap <sup>ts</sup>	Lieut <sup>ts</sup>	En <sup>s</sup>	Serj <sup>ts</sup>	Drum <sup>ms</sup>			Fifes		
Col <sup>o</sup> Washingtons	•	•	•	1	1	•	4	1	2	80	3	6	89
L <sup>t</sup> . Col <sup>o</sup> Stephens's	•	1	•	•	2	•	4	2	•	79	3	6	88
Maj <sup>r</sup> Andrew Lewis	•	•	1	•	2	1	3	2	•	87	6	6	99
Cap <sup>t</sup> Rob <sup>t</sup> Stewarts	•	•	•	•	2	1	3	2	•	76	3	6	85
Cap <sup>t</sup> Thom <sup>s</sup> Bullitts	•	•	•	1	2	1	4	2	•	77	4	6	87
Cap <sup>t</sup> Walt <sup>r</sup> Stewarts	•	•	•	1	2	•	4	2	2	78	3	6	87
Total	•	1	1	3	11	3	22	11	4	477	22	36	535

FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE.

ALEX<sup>s</sup> July 14<sup>th</sup> 1758 —D<sup>R</sup> SIR

This Serves Chiefly to Inform you that I rec<sup>d</sup> the fav<sup>r</sup> of yours the Day before you marched for Which I am Much Obliged, & Also to Inclose you A Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Rich<sup>d</sup> Washington the things Ship<sup>d</sup> by him for You & Cap<sup>t</sup> Mirrias is in our Warehouse Safe As your own house is Now Uncover'd We Shall keep them for Some Time, Y<sup>r</sup> People Shall Want No Assistance in our Power I Intend to be At the Election In Frederick & may depend on Every thing In My Power, We Are told the Two R<sup>d</sup> Lee's are gone for Westmoreland, Fran<sup>s</sup> Lee & Thomp<sup>n</sup> Mayson<sup>1</sup> for Strafford —

The Ladys here Joyn M<sup>r</sup> Dalton & Self In Wishes for y<sup>r</sup> health & Safe Return & believe me to be

D<sup>R</sup> SIRY<sup>r</sup> Obliged Hble Ser<sup>t</sup>

JOHN CARLYLE

To  
GEORGE WASHINGTON, ESQ  
To be forwarded by  
Lie<sup>t</sup> Smith at  
Fort Loudoun

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FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET.

CAMP NEAR REAS TOWN 14<sup>th</sup> July 1758

SIR

Having been out to visit the Roads I received this afternoon your two Letters of yesterday —

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<sup>1</sup> Thompson Mason.

I am obliged to you for the notice of the Sad Accident happened to your Men. This Warning may prevent more effectually than orders the Carelessness and disobedience of our People.<sup>1</sup>

The General recommends me to Send frequent Partys to harrass the Ennemies at home, I have actually four out, besides the Indians Sent by Col. Byrd. If you Should think proper to Send Some of your brisk young fellows under the Care of a prudent Officer, we could keep them busy at home.

As I am entirely unacquainted w<sup>th</sup> this Country I would look upon it as a favour, if you would let me know your opinion, upon the Possibility of Sending a Strong Party to the Indian Settlements upon the Ohio; If their houses and familis were in danger, I would think that a great inducem<sup>t</sup> for them to provide for their immediate defence and leave to the french their own quarrels to fight

Before the General could be acquainted w<sup>th</sup> your New Dress, he has approved it extremely upon a hint I gave him Some time ago.<sup>2</sup>

It takes very well here, and thank God, we See nothing but Shirts and Blanketts, &c<sup>a</sup>

The Convoys fall So thick upon us, that we have no time to do any thing but to lodge them and I am obliged to beg the assistance of your Second Comp<sup>y</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The killing of two men by the enemy, due to their going out in a careless, straggling mass contrary to Washington's positive and repeated orders.

<sup>2</sup> "It gives me great pleasure to find you approve of the Dress I have put my men into. It is evident soldiers in that *trim* are better able to carry their provisions; are fitter for the active service we *must* engage in; less liable to sink under the fatigues of a march and by this means get rid of much Baggage, which would otherwise lengthen our line of march. — These and not whim or caprice were my reasons for ordering them into it." — Washington's reply.

of artificers for a few days after they have cut the Road, and build two Logg houses half Way, for a detachment and Some Stores if wanted.

The General desires you would Send a Party to reconnoitre Braddocks Road, and begin to clear a few miles, repairing the Bridges, &c<sup>a</sup>

We have not a Soul idle in the Camp The Field Officers being themselves overseers

We Shall have Carrying horse, and few Waggons and Still less Bagage ;

Our new comers Cherokee, are gone away after having Stolen our goods. It is a great humiliation for us to be obliged to Suffer the repeated Insolence of Such Rascals ; I think it would be easier to make Indians of our White men, than to cox that damned Tanny Race.

You will receive the General's Standing Orders which we have read this morning to the Troops here.

I am at a Loss how to Settle the money between the two Provinces ; If you could tell me the way, I woud be obliged to you.

My Respects to M<sup>r</sup> Glen & Col. Byrd  
I am most Sincerely, Sir,

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>  
humble Servant

HENRY BOUQUET

You have forgot the Letter from Cap<sup>t</sup> Dagworthy<sup>1</sup>  
I write to Col. mercer.

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<sup>1</sup> Washington swore once, it is said, in later years, at the battle of Monmouth ; perhaps twice, but this is the first and only time, I believe, of record, that he was told, "You have forgot." "The enclosed," he had written, "I this instant receive from Captn. Dagworthy — If it is not in your power to afford him assistance, he *must* suffer, as it is entirely out of mine to do *it*."

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FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

CAMP AT RAESTOWN July 14<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR,

I wrote yesterday, intended by Cap<sup>t</sup> Botomworth but was out when he sett off —

Nothing new Since, only two men have deserted Viz John Clandinnon a damnable tall fellow & Adam Clandinnon his brother inlisted lately by L<sup>t</sup> Charles Smith — I have sent Advertisements through Pennsylvania, & have trusted to the Officers of their Companies to send you by this Opportunity —

I have thirteen of Cap<sup>t</sup> Flemings Company left here sick, one of Cap<sup>t</sup> Fields Company had his Leg broke yesterday & another cut him himself much on the Road, These beside our own sick are a Burthen to me, which would be much reliev'd by a Surgeons mate — I Expected M<sup>r</sup> Johnston yesterday, — And Beg — you will order him off immediately if the Bearer should find him at Fort Cumberland

I am with Respect

Sir

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup> hb<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN.

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FROM MR. EDWARD HUBBARD.

SIR

Cap<sup>t</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup> Stewart writes me he show'd you my letter . . . wherein I wish'd to be in the Light horse — and tho he is Engag'd if 'tis left to his Choice — and you will not interfere in it —

Give me leave to Accept the Friendship Colonel Bouquet has for me — who told me he wou'd ask it for me of the General — I wait your permission (if it is not promis'd tho indeed I'm afraid it is, Col Bouquet will Endeavor to get it for me)

therefore as he is kind enough to Interest himself so much in my behalf . . . permit me Receive this favor . . . which will give me great pleasure and the more as I shall still Continue under your Command

I am Sir

your very Obedt

Humble Servt

EDW HUBBARD

CAMP RAYS TOWN  
July 17 1758

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FROM GENERAL JAMES SINCLAIR.

CARLILE the 19<sup>th</sup> July 1758

SIR

I am desired by General Forbes to acquaint you that there is sent up to Rays Town in Order to be forwarded to you at Fort Cumberland Eighty tents with Tent poles compleat for the use of your Regiment & Colonel Byrds. This number is all we have at this place at present. I am

Sir

Your most Obedient & most

humble Servt

JAMES SINCLAIR

A: D: Q: M: Genl

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FROM JAMES GLEN, ESQ.<sup>1</sup>

CAMP REAS OR BOUQUETSBURGH July 19<sup>th</sup> 1758

GENTLEMEN<sup>2</sup>

The civilities I received from you at your Camp were many, but at present my acknowledgments must be few, for I have borrowed this single sheet of paper to pay my thanks to you both.

The beauty, regularity and cleanliness of this camp will charm you, It is slightly fortified with a parapet of wicker work, extreamly neat, rammed full of earth taken out of a small ditch on the outside and (which is surprizing) it was begun and finished in one day, altho' it be near 400 feet square, with small bastions in the middle of each side, and no interruption of the other Camp duty; There are at present 1500 men in it, but it is capable of containing 4000 by placing the Tents nearer, which are all so disposed, that in case of an alarm, every man who steps out of his Tent finds himself at his post. There are also Forts, Redouts, Raselins, Magazines &c &c and all this without one farthing expence (except about nine pence per day to the best house Carpenters) such wonders does the admirable Bouquet work in the Wilderness. Come and see, or will you defer it till your return from Du Quesne?

I wish Col Washington could be prevail'd upon to think with me that his presence is more necessary at Winchester, for one day at least, than in Camp Cumberland, had I the pleasure of being better ac-

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<sup>1</sup> Late Governor of South Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> Colonels Washington and Byrd.

quainted I would press it, had I any authority I would command it, I hope he will permit me to pray it. A propos I was at public prayers this morning before four O'clock. I hope M<sup>r</sup> Barcklay is better. A hint.

I hope the party that were sent to view the road have not lost themselves for they have not been able to find their way back yet

The General is expected at this Place the beginning of next week depend upon my writing to you every thing that happens — now and then what is likely to happen

My Compliments to my friend and fellow-traveller Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart and all the Gentlemen Officers of both Battallions I am with truth

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Servant

JAMES GLEN

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FROM LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

CAMP AT RAES TOWN July 19<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR,

Col. Bouquet was at first in a great dilemma betwixt his great inclination to serve you, & the Attachment he has to regularity, duty & discipline. He is sensible the Enemy we deal with is Active and Enterprizing, & thinks himself answerable for What happens in your Absence. But as he is really a good man, & willing to Oblige, His Inclination to Serve you gaind the Superiority, and He has such a

favourable Opinion of you that, That he will not easily believe that matters go Right until you return<sup>1</sup>

I have sent a provision Return of this Detachm<sup>t</sup> and will Obey your Orders respecting the Dress &c.

John Dow never wrote me whether you paid him my order, £30 for Alexander & Lochard & £23 L<sup>t</sup> Blagg amounting to £53 If it is not paid be so good as take up the Order, now you are going down, and oblige

Sir

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup> h<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN

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FROM MR. EDWARD SNICKERS.

dere Coll I Shold take it as a greait favor if you wold Send the Cash for the iron by the first oportunety to me as ihave got the order and it is in Closed in this Leter and ~~we are~~ all youere a mos frendes are dowing all that Lyes in there power to have you alectid and I hope it will be mead out if

---

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Bouquet gave Washington leave to attend the election. In acknowledgment Washington said: "I am exceedingly obliged by the handsome and polite manner in which you are pleased to give me leave to attend the Election at Winchester. Altho' my being there on any other occasion would, at any other time, be very agreeable to me; yet I can hardly persuade myself to think of being absent from my more immediate Duty, even for a few days. I will not however come to any absolute determination on this matter till I receive answers to some letters on that subject (which I expect this night or tomorrow) In the meantime I beg you will allow me to subscribe myself &c., &c."

you wore here youere Self it wold be out of despute  
So no more at present from youere

N B M<sup>r</sup>: Balindine  
Sent M<sup>r</sup>: Linton up  
after the pay for the  
[mutilated] M<sup>r</sup>: Smith  
and as he Cold not  
geat it he give me an  
order. iam yours

frend and hombil  
Sarvent to Comand  
EDWARD SNICKERS  
July the 19<sup>th</sup> 1758

E. S.

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FROM CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER GIST.

WINCHESTER July the 20<sup>th</sup> 1758.

SIR

here with you you have the agreeable News of taking all the Outworks at Lewisburg your Papers will come by the Command & as the Carolina Soldiers had no Arms I Sent Cap<sup>t</sup>: Tom with 25 Indians as far as South branch who is to come back to this town, from ther ; as no doubt you will Send a Guard to South Branch, to take Care of these 50 Waggons with Stores & Provisions, & as your waggons will come again the Same Indians will come then with Me. I have advices from the Cherokee Country that the Indians will not come untill the heat is a little over, I Sent Smith away the 14<sup>th</sup> the express Met him at augusta I orderd M<sup>r</sup>: Cromwell with him who will Delay no time, they cannot be here in less than forty days from this day, I believe it is a good

thing Smith is gone there as he will Set every thing right.

I have a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Turner to General Forbes, which I am going with My Self. he is at Carlyle the waggons is at Parrises the Bearer will Set Out at 10 OClock hope you will See him to morrow let him come with the next command or Sooner excuse hast

Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Obed<sup>t</sup>

Hum<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

CHRIST. GIST

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FROM THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR FAUQUIER.

W<sup>m</sup>BURGH July 20<sup>th</sup> 1758

S<sup>r</sup>

I rec<sup>d</sup> your Favour of the 10<sup>th</sup> on the 18<sup>th</sup> with an inclosed Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Stores left at Winchester, and of the Tools deliver'd for the use of the 2<sup>d</sup> Regiment: but had no Acc<sup>t</sup> from M<sup>r</sup> Smith of the Arms, nor from M<sup>r</sup> Ramsay of the Provisions issued for the Subsistance of the Men since S<sup>t</sup> John S<sup>t</sup> Clair's Arrival at Winchester, when I apprehended our Men were to be provided for out of the Stores belonging to the Crown.

In Relation to Col<sup>l</sup> Bouquets paragraph about the Catawba's I am not much surprized for I have never entertain'd any high Opinion of the Friendship of any Indians, nor form'd any great Expectations from their Services. as for sending any Messenger to them as he proposes I apprehend it will be too late to

undertake any Thing of that Sort for the Benefit of this Campaign, and according to their Behaviour in it, we shall be better able to know what to say to them at the End of it. All that is now to be done seems to me to be this, to keep those in good Humour who still remain with you, lest they should do Mischief to the Inhabitants in their Return home (as some have done) if they leave you in an ill Humour. But as you have already wrote to General Forbes on this Subject I shall readily acquiesce in any Measure you shall agree to be proper.

I beg you would assure the General and S<sup>r</sup> John S<sup>r</sup> Clair of my Respect to them, and of my Readiness on all Occasions to assist his Majestie's Forces in all their Operations, in which I sincerely wish you all imaginary Success and am with great Regard

S<sup>r</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> very Humble

Serv<sup>t</sup>

FRAN: FAUQUIER

FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

SIR

In my last I omitted to inform you that I sent four Boxes in room of the three Barrells of flints orderd in your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>; Since which I have the favour of your letters dated the 11<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> I sent your horses imediatly to your Quarter and shall take the first safe oportunity of forwarding them to your house in Fairfax; The answere I had from old M<sup>r</sup> Stinsons, was, that Valentine Crawford

had deliverd the Hanger your Brother left there to Bishop, about six ~~week~~ months agoe. — I gave your Overseer Seven pounds with instructions to pay none of it away without Receipts, and to produce the same at his settling with me, when, he shall have more if wanted, I take this to be the most prudent manner.

Imediatly on receiving your last, I obeyd your orders relating the Rangers as you'l observe by the Inclos'd returns and as soon as a reduction of the men is made if under 40 shall apply to Cap<sup>t</sup> Rutherford for sufficient to make that number up; But Pray Sir of what service can fourty men be off, to this place? allowing (which I have reason to think will be the case all this Summer and fall) thirty of them not able to crawl out of their Beds: They are not indeed a Sufficient Guard to the Stores nor will those that are well be able to bring water to the Sick; Besides with this number I am ordered to Carry on the Well and cover the Barracks, which no doubt is expected from me. I shall take it kind after considering on this if you'l assist me with your advice; In the mean time I shall act according to the orders I have and endeavour as far as in my power to do for the Best.

I receiv'd a Letter from Quarter Mas<sup>r</sup> Kennedy wherin, "by your orders" he sends for 1000 pair of Shoes, 200 Shirts, with a Drum & Sticks; M<sup>r</sup> Kennedy is no doubt sencible that there was a Receipt given for only 708 pair of Shoes however I found four pair more which makes 712 p<sup>r</sup>: As I imagin'd no Officer wou'd presume to make use of your name

without your orders I have sent by this Escort these things, Notwithstanding yours orders to me are, not to deliver any stores without letters from yourself or orders from the Governor, Of Consequence I was also oblig'd to give out to Cap<sup>t</sup> Bayly for his men that are in this Escort, Twelve Musketts; My not having your own Letter to send these Stores gives me uneasyness, and I shall be glad to hear from you by first Oportunity whether or not I have Acted right, I imagind this might be the last Escort and that it woud have putt the Country to much Charge and perhaps a Delay to the forces if I had denyd M<sup>r</sup> Kennedys order, or waited till I sent an Express to you.

This day I am to receive from the Armourer all the Arms belonging to the Country in his Charge, these, with what are here I shall imediatly make an Exact return of, and send a Copey to the Governor and one to you by first oportunity after this

I had almost omitted to inform you that the Magazine has sprung a Great many Leaks which keeps every man in Garrison that is fitt to move besides myself constantly employed, to make it tight

I am hopefull the Small pox will do no mischief; The Soldiers are never out of Garrison nor your men from the Shop day or night except for water which is a Diffrent Course from where the Man lyes that has that Dissorder

I wish Sir it was in my power, to give you more encouragement than I can with truth do in relation to the Election; A great many of your pretended Freinds at the time you was here, now seem doubt-

full, and will not promise whether they'l give you a vote or not; Your Freinds here have not yett determin'd who, will be the properest person to take the Pole for you — Col<sup>o</sup> Wood is propos'd, as it is thought Col<sup>o</sup> Hite and M<sup>r</sup> Jones as active men can be of more service out of door & perhaps my standing might give disgust to some of the weaker freeholders whose votes goe as farr as those of men of sence. You may be assured we will consult for and do for the best before the Election begins, This farr you may depend, on having the most Creditable vote of the Whole Candidates, as there is not one of your real Freinds but what are more active and industrious in your behalf than they wou'd be was you present. Your Brother Col<sup>o</sup> Lewis coud not be carryed in Spotsylvania, Col<sup>o</sup> Walker and Zachrey Lewis went by a Vulgar Majority from Matapony. — Col<sup>o</sup> Wood at this time is desperatly Bad with the Gout, he wanted to write you but is not able.

I heartyly Congratulate you on the Good news from Lewis<sup>s</sup> the Particulars you'l receive by the Papers which accompany this. I am

Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hum<sup>e</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

CHA<sup>s</sup> SMITH

FORT LOUDON 20<sup>th</sup> July 1758

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FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.

WINCHESTER July 20<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

It gives me Real Concern to trouble you further — but the Continued Complaints of the Inhabitants

and intreaties of my men ; as almost the whole of them that have been in the Fort have Contracted Severe fluxes which has vastly weakend the Company ; Obliges me to Presume to Mention One Step which Might be taken to Relieve them ; which is this ; there are in Fort Loudoun Several of the new Regiment in Such a State that it is impossible for them to undergo the fateigues of Marching this Season, even if they are removed from that Place, their Corps must inevitably inrich the Soyl only a Little further from home & were they Continued there where they Can be Comforted with Proper Nourishments, it woud render them Capable of Performing duty in the Garrison very soon. by this time I am also truly Sensible there are many others of that Regiment in the Same Circumstance, and were they Sent back to this Garrison 2/3<sup>ds</sup> of them Might be recovered, which wou'd be treating the Poor wretches with the Hospitality due to Human Creatures, and Disposing of them for the Common Good — I am truly Conscious that every thing in your Power will be done for the best —

There is a good Prospect of Success in the ensuing Election, as your friends Push every thing with the greatest ardour ; even down to Will the Hatter and his Oly Spouse Show the greatest Spirit in the Cause

I am with Sincere Esteem

Dear Sir

Your most ob<sup>t</sup>

Hble Ser<sup>t</sup>

R RUTHERFORD

FROM CAPTAIN BOTOMWORTH.

CAMP AT RAYS TOWN 20<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that Yesterday a Runner arrived here from one of the Parties of Indians which I had sent out to Fort du Quesne & brought the agreeable News of their having killed & Scalped one Frenchman & mortally wounding two others near the Fort, they only saw a few Indians but that a great Number of Frenchmen were at work in some Trenches at a small distance from the Fort I verily believe they are but weak & that their main Body of Indians is certainly gone to the Northward. I have the Satisfaction of assuring you that our Troops were all landed in Gabrouse<sup>1</sup> Bay and had sufferd much from the French in their Trenches & Battery which they had erected to annoy them the Highlanders<sup>2</sup> distinguished themselves greatly in this action by falling upon their Flanks & forcing their Trenches the French abandoned all their Batterys along Shore & we had made ourselves masters of the Lighthouse Battery & hope before this we are in Possession of Louisbourg,<sup>3</sup> we have also taken a 64 Gun Ship coming in there with a

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<sup>1</sup> Gabarouse or Gabarus Bay.

<sup>2</sup> Frazer's Highlanders. General Wolfe was so pleased with the behavior of two of these Highland soldiers that he gave each of them a guinea.

<sup>3</sup> Until the 7th of June the high winds and surf had prevented every attempt of the British to land. On the morning of the 8th, however, wind and swell having abated, the cannon of the English fleet began to play upon the French works, and shortly after a landing was effected. It is to this action, known as "the battle of the surf," that Captain Botomworth refers. It was the opening move against Louisburg, and is of additional interest from the fact that then the gallant Wolfe made his first appearance in American annals.

Transport or two. I'm sorry to tell you that the brave Lord<sup>1</sup> was killed in dispossessing the French of one of their Posts in a Small Island upon Lake George that we had taken 140<sup>Sold<sup>rs</sup></sup> Prisoners & 8 Officers after landing & were in Possession of the same, I can't give you an exact account where Gen! Abercromby was but its thought he must be in Possession of Ticonderoga before this or repulsed there are various Conjectures. Your Canteens are not yet come up but are upon the road as soon as they come here shall take Care to send them, I have desired M<sup>r</sup>: Gist to deliver you a dozen of Lemons w<sup>ch</sup> were all I could gett The Artillery is at Shippens Town & I expect the Gen! here the beginning of next Week I have heard that Gen! Stanwix is at Albany collecting all the N York Militia nothing further remarkable but this I am

D<sup>r</sup>: Sir

Your much Obliged Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

A BOTOMWORTH

my Compl<sup>ts</sup> to Cap<sup>t</sup>: Stuart &c<sup>a</sup>

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FROM CAPTAIN WALTER STEUART.

RAES TOWN July 20<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

As you did not Acquaint me, when I was to Date the Commission, you was Pleased to send me, I have

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<sup>1</sup> Lord Howe was killed at Ticonderoga on the 6th of July. For an admirable account of this distinguished officer, see *Letters of an American Lady*, vol. ii.; *Biography of James Wolfe*, Wright. Read, also, Thackeray's *Virginians*.

referr'd filling it up, untill I had the Pleasure of Seeing you; But as you Seemd to be of Oppinion, when I spoke to you at Winchester, that I had a right to the Pay, from the Date of Col Mercers Commission, I drawd Pay from M<sup>r</sup>: Boyd — from the first of May — If the thing is Disagreeable to you, I shall Return the money again to him —

Col. Bouquet has been Pleas'd to Appoint me Major of Brigade, for this Division of the Troops, untill the General Came up, & tells me there is one to be Appointed for the Virg<sup>ns</sup>. As your letter gave me reason to believe you was willing to do me a kindness, I beg leave to request your interest again in this, which fav<sup>r</sup>: shall be gratefully acknowledged by

S<sup>t</sup>: Y<sup>r</sup>: most Obed<sup>t</sup>: hum<sup>le</sup>: Serv<sup>t</sup>:

WALTER STEUART

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FROM JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ESQ.

ALEXANDRIA 21<sup>st</sup> July 1758 —

DEAR SIR

Your intelligence of the 12<sup>th</sup> came regularly to hand — in which no circumstance equals the agreeable account of your good health — the only blessing necessary for Life — but more especially to promote Spirit & pleasure in the Toils of a Campaigne

The invariable attention, indefatigably pursued by the Pennsilvanians, without regard to the common interest, for advancing their private fortunes — have long been glaring proofs of a Selfish & Sordid prin-

ciple — which will ever prevail to obstruct the Generous attempts of their associates for Liberty and Property — and this instance of the partiality paid them by Signior S<sup>t</sup> Cl—r the Bashaw<sup>1</sup>— is certainly owing to the influence of that meanness — wrought upon his Foible by some fellow of address — but Quere, — how far the Bashaw's penetration can carry him to distinguish in matters of such importance — where prejudice — or rather pride in the first place — attended w<sup>t</sup> the love of power — passion — and Self Sufficiency — Conspire to put him into Motion — We must undoubtedly expect nothing but irregularities & inconsistencies, from Such a Contrasted Character —

We who view the actions of high life at so vast a distance, can only form conjectures — agreeable to the small extent of our knowledge — & ignorant of the comprehensive Schemes intended — mistake plaguily in Judging by the piece — Perhaps the Pensilvanians — had plan'd Some grand Affair — to be perfected a Century hence — by cutting a Road from Rays Town — however, all Jesting apart — this delay and trifling of time is a Lamentable matter — We had

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<sup>1</sup> The writer by "Signor S<sup>t</sup> C—r" substitutes Major S<sup>t</sup> Clair for General Forbes. The latter was believed by the Virginians and Marylanders to have been too much under a Pennsylvania influence, in resolving to make this new road across the mountains from Carlisle to Fort Duquesne, by way of Raystown, in opposition to the Braddock road by way of Forts Frederic and Cumberland favored by Washington. Washington wrote to Governor Fauquier on this subject: "The Pennsylvanians, whose present as well as future interest it was to have the expedition conducted through their government, and along that way, because it secures their frontiers at present, and their trade hereafter, a chain of forts being erected, had prejudiced the General absolutely against the old road, and made him believe that *we* were the partial people, and determined him at all events to pursue that route." See, also, Governor Robinson's letter of September 13, 1758, with particulars regarding the action of the Virginia Assembly on what they imagined was partiality shown to Pennsylvania.

accounts last Post of the armys landing & incamping at Louisburg — and expect by this time they have reduced it — however, you have the news more particularly & readier at Fort Cumb<sup>d</sup>. than we — therefore I need not repeat them —

Your Regiments attachm<sup>t</sup> and Spirit to the Service, shews itself not only in Change of Dress — adapted to the Service — but in every Steddy purpose for the publick Good — that motives of patriotism and principles of true Honour can inspire — as they have always been the Spring of Your Actions — may they produce their due reward for the toils that accompany them — A Glorious & Peaceful retirement — to the pleasures of private Life —

To tell you our Domestick occurrences woud look silly — & ill sute your time to peruse — We have dull Barbecues — and yet Duller Dances — An Election causes a Hubub for a Week or so — & then we are dead a While — Yesterday Geo: Mason & Geo: Johnston — were Chosen for Fairfax — Francis Lee & James Hamilton for Loudoun — Other Matters are not worth notice — to speake of Tob<sup>o</sup> to You — is Still more impertinent — tho' it is Tob<sup>o</sup> in reality this Summer — & exceeds the highest prices for many Years — 30/ Curr<sup>t</sup> has absolutely been given & 25/ is frequent — whoever consigns Tob<sup>o</sup> surely must be Enemy's to their own interest —

Your friends Salute You w<sup>t</sup> the greatest Respect

— & Unite their Wishes with me for Your Health  
& Happy Success — I am

Dear Col<sup>o</sup>

Your Most Affec<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J<sup>N</sup><sup>o</sup> KIRKPATRICK.

P. S. I'm astonish'd Doct<sup>r</sup> Craik<sup>1</sup> does }  
not write — I fancy his hands are full }

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FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

DEAR SIR

Your favour of yesterday's Evening was handed me this morning before Reville Beating — In answer I beg leave to assure you that should that formidable Body of Indians attempt this place I will exert myself to the utmost in giving them a proper Reception —

It was some time after dark before the Junction of the little Partys that compose my small Command could be effected, then I did not loose a moment in placing advanc'd Sentries and appointing Alarm Posts & C<sup>a</sup> on rec<sup>t</sup> of yours we repair'd to these Posts and so soon as day came Detach'd some of our best woodsmen different ways to endeavour at making some discoveries, employ'd a Party to repair the Fences and finish the Penns and at present think I have little to fear from double my numbers

The Doct<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>c</sup>Neil desir'd I would have an Escort for them at Enocks's Wednesday night

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<sup>1</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Craik undoubtedly had "his hands full." He was working zealously for Washington: the election was to take place on the 24th.

as the Enemy is about will send every body I can spare

There's glorious Grass here, I wish to God you would use your Interest to keep me here till we begin our long March — I beg you 'll Please present my Complim<sup>ts</sup> to Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd and the rest of my good acquaint<sup>ts</sup> with you & believe me to be with unalterable Regard

My Dear Colonel  
Your truely affect<sup>ts</sup> &  
much obliged hble Servt

ROBERT STEWART

CRESUPS July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1758 }  
8 oClock P. M. }

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FROM CAPTAIN JOHN MCNEILL.

D<sup>R</sup> BURGESS<sup>1</sup>

I have the infinite pleasure to Let you know that you exceeded all the Candidates here and carry'd it over the highest 71 Votes Extrodinary

I am

Sir

Your Most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN M<sup>C</sup>NEILL

Jully 24<sup>th</sup> 1758

P. S. M<sup>r</sup> Martin is }  
your Collegue }

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<sup>1</sup> Such term being more expressive of McNeill's joy at Washington's election than "Dear Colonel" or "Dear Sir."

FROM GABRIEL JONES, ESQ.

D<sup>R</sup> SIR

Permit me just as I am going off to wish you joy  
of y<sup>r</sup> Election & tell you that I am very sincerely

D<sup>r</sup> SirY<sup>r</sup> most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

G. JONES

24<sup>th</sup> July 1758  
Bush's

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FROM CAPTAIN A. BOTOMWORTH.

CAMP AT RAYS TOWN 24<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I rec<sup>d</sup> your favour & am sorry to tell you that we  
have been repulsed at Fort Carillon,<sup>1</sup> we lost 1000  
men & the brave Lord How fell the first fire they all  
landed at the bottom of the Lake without opposi-  
tion the French Indians run away at the first Fire,  
Major Rutherford & Capt<sup>n</sup> Rutherford are in the list  
of the Slain, The Remains of Lord How are brought  
to Albany; we have taken a French Frigate coming  
out of Louisbourg with the Governor's Lady & all

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<sup>1</sup> As part of the military operations for 1758, it was intended to dislodge the French from Ticonderoga or Carillon (as the French called it), and accordingly on July 6, Major-General James Abercromby determined to carry the place by assault. The siege lasted until the 9th, and ended in Abercromby's complete rout, so much so, says Mr. Gerald E. Hart in his admirable paper, *The Fall of New France*, read before the Society for Historical Studies of Montreal, that had he been followed by Montcalm he would not have escaped without a tremendous loss of life. According to the same authority, the English forces consisted of the Royal Artillery, the 27th, 42d Highlanders, 44th, 46th, 55th, 1st, and 2d Battalions of Royal Americans (the 60th), commingled with 9000 provincial troops. Major Rutherford and Captain Rutherford, of whom Captain Botomworth writes to Washington, were of the latter, and our own countrymen, who gave up their lives in the winning of Canada for Britain.

the Treasure of the place there is not the least reason to doubt of its being in our Possession — The Delaware Indians have sued for a Peace Old King Tudyuscan<sup>n</sup>y has taken up the Hatchett against the French I wish this may not be a Stroke of French Policy, they Promise to join us from the Ohio and have settled Signals for that Purpose I shall have some dependance upon them when they bring in their Women and Children They are to release 300 English Captives, the Gen<sup>l</sup> sleeps at Fort Lyttleton this night & will be at this Camp on Wednesday for certain. I am

D: S:

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

A. BOTOMWORTH.

Your Canteens are upon the road/

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FROM COLONEL THOMAS WALKER.

FORT LOUDOUN July y<sup>e</sup> 24 1758

DEAR SIR

I have the Pleasure of congratulating you on being Elected by a great majority of the freholders of Frederick

I am at present very Ill with the Rheumatism in my knees which with the different contradictory orders from M<sup>r</sup> Hoops puts me much to it, how to act and indeed almost determines me not to be concernd further than I have already engaged, of which

I will write you more fulley when oppertunity Permits

I am S:

Your Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

THO<sup>s</sup>. WALKER

P. S. I propose to send y<sup>e</sup> next Convoy on y<sup>e</sup> 14 of next month & hope for some waggons down from you & a Guard

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FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

FORT LOUDOUN July y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1758

D<sup>r</sup>. BURGIS<sup>1</sup>

I have the Happiness to Inform You your Friends have been Very Sincere So that were Carried by a Number of Votes more than any Candidate, as by the number<sup>s</sup> under Certifyed. Col<sup>o</sup>. James Wood Sat on the Bench, and Represented Your Honour, and was Carried round the Town with a General applause, Huzawing Col<sup>o</sup>. Washington, pray Excuse my haste I am Entertaining Your and my Friend<sup>s</sup>,<sup>2</sup> and am with Due Regard Your most

Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

CHARLES SMITH.

P. S. the representatives that Sat up were as Followeth and Number of Votes Viz.,

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Smith must also make use of some term more expressive of his rejoicing than commonplace "dear Sir." He was one of Washington's devoted friends.

<sup>2</sup> "I am extremely thankful to you and my other friends for entertaining the Freeholders in my name. I hope no Exception was taken to any that voted against me, but that all were alike treated, and had enough. It is what I much desired. My only fear is that you spent with too sparing a hand." — Washington to Colonel Wood.

Your Honour . . . . .	307
Col: Martin . . . . .	240
Cap: Swearingen . . . . .	45
Hugh West . . . . .	199

791 — y<sup>e</sup> half is 395

This is the True State of y<sup>e</sup> Ellection

FROM COLONEL JOHN CARLYLE.

WINCHESTER July 25 1758

D<sup>r</sup> SIR

I Rece<sup>d</sup> yours ☞ D: Craiks with <sup>£</sup>75 Wch Shall Immediatly Lay out In A bill & Remit as Directed — the Goods In my Care Seemed to be Chairs & a Small box that has y<sup>r</sup> Armes In it Cut In Wood — If your Letter that you mention Comes to my hand Shall Immediatly forward up to you, I cannot Say how M: Washington has Settled the Insurance but Shall Write him Ab: it ☞ first Oppertunity —

I have Yett not given up hopes of Copethorn I have Ten hhd:<sup>1</sup> on hand without one Penny Insured & now woud not Give 25 ☞c: I heartily Congratulate you on y<sup>r</sup> Election here you Need Not doubt but We did Every thing in our Power to Serve you We Came here on Purpose

I Wish y<sup>r</sup> Health & us a happy Meeting Concludes Me D: Sir

Y: Very Affectionate Hble Ser:

JOHN CARLYLE

<sup>1</sup> Of tobacco. Washington's crop or sales at this period (July 22, 1758) amounted to £244. 10. 10.

FROM CHARLES DICK, ESQ.

WINCHESTER July 25<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

I heartily wish you joy on your Election and hope you will soon return crown'd w<sup>th</sup> Laurels to take your place in the house

I should not now trouble you farther was it not necessity obliges me, as a word from you may bring the Gent<sup>l</sup> to a just sense of gratitude which all the methods I have taken cannot. In April 1755 At Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward's earnest supplication & his promise to repay me very soon I let him have above £22 " Cash to clear him of small debts out of Fred<sup>s</sup>, many months after I got ten pound of it from Anth<sup>y</sup> Strother on Acco<sup>t</sup> of a £100 Bill Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward drew on London endorsed by Col. Tayloe who has Since been obliged to pay it as it came back protested. I have repeatedly wrote Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodward when in Augusta & the L<sup>rs</sup> delivrd to his own hands but no Answer, the inclosed order M<sup>r</sup> Strahan showd him when here he promised to pay it before he went up but took care to march without doing it, I beg the favour you will speak to him so as I may get my money which is too much to lose as I have a family & it is no charity to let him have it wantonly to spend w<sup>th</sup> the Sutlers &c<sup>a</sup> I have endorsed the Note pay<sup>l</sup> to M<sup>r</sup> Ramsay as he will soon return, your friendly Assist<sup>ce</sup> therein will very much add to the many Obligations conferrd on

Sir Your most Humb<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>CHA<sup>s</sup> DICK

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FROM WILLIAM FAIRFAX, ESQ.

WINCHESTER July 25<sup>th</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

Since my Arrival I have been much indisposed and am now troubeld with slow Fevers every day. But yett was determind to try my old friends for you and Col<sup>o</sup> Martin, and have scarcely time to acquaint you that we have succeeded in our Wish and that your Colleague sett of tomorrow to Attend the Assembly which is thought will be but Short. — Upon the Receipt of your favour I went to Mount Vernon in Order to assist M<sup>r</sup> Patterson with my advice if wanted. But I found every thing framed and prepared to put up. and when I was last their the Roof was Raised and they were lathing of it, so that I hope it will soon be coverd, but if any thing will prevent it, it will be for want of Shingles. But I expect John Gladin will soon be up with some. Triplett has made and burnt the Bricks and intends immediately to sett about the underpinning — I propose and shall Recommend their priming the weather boards as soon as possible to prevent Warping — and any thing else that I see to your interest<sup>1</sup> — I congratulate you on our Success to the Northward and hope we shall soon have the Dunkirk of N<sup>o</sup> America<sup>2</sup> in our hands, and I think I may Venture to say M<sup>r</sup> Pitt woud give it up for Minorca or any other Island, as his grand and favourite Object is these Colonies<sup>3</sup> — I have not time to add more than

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<sup>1</sup> Details of the rebuilding of the mansion at Mount Vernon.

<sup>2</sup> Louisbourg.

<sup>3</sup> Our forefathers bear testimony that we should ever honor the name of William Pitt,

my best wishes attend you and that you <sup>may</sup> add Sprigs to your Laurels and sit down quiet and easy for the future on the banks of Potomack, which will be the greatest inducement to keep me on this side the water.

I am Dear Sir your very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>M</sup> FAIRFAX

Pray excuse haste our Horses being  
at the door

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FROM CAPTAIN ROBERT STEWART.

DEAR SIR

From the bottom of a heart that overflows with Joy I beg leave to offer my Congratulations on you happy Election! doubly so in it's manner, which considering the vast majority of votes, your absence and your having so long Commanded the whole of that Country in the worst of times,<sup>1</sup> must greatly redound

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Earl of Chatham, as our staunch friend. "It was the zeal of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, that had produced a change in the Counsels of his Majesty's ministers respecting America. He stipulated that the colonial troops should be supplied with arms, ammunition, tents, and provisions, in the same manner as the regular troops, and at the King's expense; so that the only charge to the colonies would be that of levying, clothing, and paying the men. The governors were, also, authorized to issue commissions to provincial officers, from Colonels downwards, and these officers were to hold rank in the united army according to their commissions. He had from the first requested and secured the hearty coöperation from the Colonial Assemblies, and had his liberal and just system been adopted at the outset it would have put a different face upon the military affairs of the colonies." — SPARKS.

<sup>1</sup> Considering the command which he had been obliged to exercise in Frederick County for near five years, and the restraints which the exigency of circumstances required him occasionally to put upon the inhabitants, this result was deemed a triumphant proof of his abilities, address, and power to win the affections and confidence of the people. — SPARKS.

to your honour and in all true human probability will be thrice happy in its consequences

Tomorrow morning a Strong Party Marches from hence to Escort our two Heroes up

Inclos'd is my weekly Return —

Nothing remarkable has happen'd since my arrival here — Our Reconnoitring Party have made no Discoveries —

My bad State of Health continues or rather encreases — That you may enjoy Health and every thing else agreeable are the sincere wishes of him who ever is with the highest Esteem & Regard

My Dear Col<sup>o</sup>

Your most affect<sup>e</sup> &

Ob<sup>t</sup> hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

ROBERT STEWART

CRESAPS July 25<sup>th</sup> 1758  
8 oClock P M —

Please offer my Compl<sup>ts</sup> }  
to Col<sup>o</sup> Byrd & Col<sup>o</sup> Mercer }

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FROM ROBERT RUTHERFORD, ESQ.

WINCHESTER July 26<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR

The Punctual discharge of every trust, in you reposed — Your humane and Equitable treatment of each individual and your Ardent Zeal for the Common Cause; (so Obvious to every unprejudic'd rational Person) has gain'd your point with Credit; as your friends Coud with the greatest warmth & truth urge, the worth of those noble endowments & Prin-

principles; as well as Your Superior interest, both here & in the House; in which I am truly Sensible you will acquit yourself with Equal Hon<sup>r</sup> if the fates decree you there a Seat, — to Complete which and in the intermediate Space; Crown you with Laurels, joy and Success, may every Guardian Power of the Just; be Propitious is the unfeign'd wish of

Dear

Sir

your Most Affectionate

and

Most Ob<sup>t</sup>

Hble Ser<sup>t</sup>

R. RUTHERFORD

FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.

NEW LONDON July 17<sup>th</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

I was on a Vissit over to Long Island a few days agoe and unexpectedly Came here, shall Return in the morning for New London —

am Very sorry to give an Acco<sup>t</sup> of the Repulse our Forces met with before Ticondoroga we Landed on the 7<sup>th</sup> near that Fortress with the Loss of ab<sup>t</sup> 30 men, but what was Very Fatall the Gallant Lord Howe there Lost his Life, we drove the Enemy from all their out Posts and killed an took ab<sup>t</sup> 400 Prisoners<sup>1</sup> — the 8<sup>th</sup> our army attacked the Retrench'd Camp ~~with~~ before The Fort sword in hand, there is so

<sup>1</sup> A skirmish with the advance guard of the French in which they were quickly defeated. The *Annual Register* has it that Lord Howe was killed in this skirmish.

many Various Reports of the Attack and Loss, that it is Very hard to Come at the truth, however we met with a Very Warm Reception the Enemy were trebly intrenched to their Teeth, how Long the attack lasted I cannot say but the General has Retreated in good order to the Place where Fort William Henry Stood with the Loss of near 1600 men killed missing and wounded it is said 97 Officers are killed missing & wounded their is as yet no Returns or List Come to hand therefore I can give the Names of but Very few and them only of the greatest Note Viz:

Lord How,<sup>1</sup> Col: Donaldson, Col: Beaver, Maj: Proby, Maj: Rutherford, Maj: Tulithier these most People agree are Certainly amongst the slain Wounded, Col: Gage, Col: Delaney of the Yorks Col: Grant Maj: Ayers, M: Clark Enginere & I am Very sorry <sup>for an occasion</sup> to give you any Acco: of this kind but as it is so wish it was in my Power to give you a more Particular one, of this severe and unexpected blow — I Sincerely hope we shall have a Better story to tell Very soon from you in the Neighbourhood of Fort Duquesne, where may he who governs the universe have you under his Peculiar Care and send you back Loaded with Hon-

<sup>1</sup> "Soon after the news of Lord Howe's death arrived in England, the following advertisement appeared in the public papers; an application worthy of a Roman matron, in the virtuous times of the Republic, and which could not fail of success, where the least spark of virtue existed: To the gentlemen, clergy, freeholders, and burgesses, of the town and county of Nottingham. — As Lord Howe is now absent upon the public service, and Lieutenant Colonel Howe is with his regiment at Louisbourg, it rests upon me to beg the favour of your votes and interests, that Lieutenant-colonel Howe may supply the place of his late brother, as your representative in Parliament.

"Permit me, therefore, to implore the protection of every one of you, as the mother of him, whose life has been lost in the service of his country. CHARLOTTE HOWE, Albemarle Street, Sept. 14, 1758." — *Annual Register*.

nour a thing you have always so much merrited.  
Please to give my Love to my Brother. I have not  
time to write to him. Excuse this scrawl being in  
great haist and Accept of my most sincere wishes  
for your safety & welfare and Assure your self that  
I am my Dear Sir

Your affectionate  
JOS CHEW

our Friend Beverly is  
at Albany w<sup>th</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> Delancey  
his Dear good woman and  
Prety Boy are Very well —  
if Doct Thomas Walker is with you Pray give my  
best Respects to him, I greatly thank him for his  
kindness to my Brothers

---

FROM JOSEPH CHEW, ESQ.

NEW LONDON July 26<sup>th</sup> 1758

DEAR SIR

I have only time to forward you the inclosed Paper  
I most sincerely Long to hear from you. May the  
almighty giver of all good; Preserve Protect and  
have you under his immediate Care I Pray you also  
to be assured I am my

Dear Sir  
Your affectionate  
JOS CHEW.

---

FROM COLONEL GEORGE MERCER.

DEAR SIR

Col: Bouquet has directed the Command to return to you, but desires Me to remain here till the General arrives <sup>who</sup> ~~which~~ is expected this Day. This Camp furnishes no News. We expect to hear of a Party of Shawnesse & Delawares having joined you, one of the Pennsylvania Light Horse having assured us that he saw 30 or 40 come in the Day he left Fort Cumberland. I am

D: S:

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> hble Servant

GE<sup>o</sup> MERCER

CAMP AT RAES TOWN  
July 27<sup>th</sup> 1758—

*A Weekly Return of the Soldiers left at Fort Loudoun, under the Com<sup>d</sup> of Lieut. Ch<sup>s</sup> Smith, July 26, 1758.*

1 <sup>st</sup> Virg <sup>t</sup> Reg <sup>t</sup>		Ranger		2 <sup>d</sup> Virg <sup>t</sup> Reg <sup>t</sup>	
0	Capt	0	Capt	0	Capt
1	Leut	0	Leut	0	Leut
0	En <sup>t</sup>	0	En <sup>t</sup>	0	En <sup>t</sup>
1	Serg <sup>t</sup>	1	Serg <sup>t</sup>	0	Serg <sup>t</sup>
1	Drums	0	Drums	0	Drums
31	Rank & File	5	Rank & File	20	Rank & File
18	Fit for Duty	3	Fit for Duty	2	Fit for Duty
13	Sick	2	Sick	18	Sick
0	on Com <sup>d</sup>	0	on Com <sup>d</sup>	0	on Com <sup>d</sup>
0	on Furlow	0	on Furlow	0	on Furlow
0	Deserted	0	Deserted	0	Deserted
0	Prisoners	0	Prisoners	0	Prisoners
0	Dead	0	Dead	1	Dead
0	Total	6	Total	20	Total
34		6		20	
0	Capt	0	Capt	0	Capt
0	Leut	0	Leut	0	Leut
0	En <sup>t</sup>	0	En <sup>t</sup>	0	En <sup>t</sup>
1	Serg <sup>t</sup>	0	Serg <sup>t</sup>	0	Serg <sup>t</sup>
0	Drums	0	Drums	0	Drums
5	Rank & File	20	Rank & File	20	Rank & File
3	Fit for Duty	2	Fit for Duty	2	Fit for Duty
2	Sick	18	Sick	18	Sick
0	on Com <sup>d</sup>	0	on Com <sup>d</sup>	0	on Com <sup>d</sup>
0	on Furlow	0	on Furlow	0	on Furlow
0	Deserted	0	Deserted	0	Deserted
0	Prisoners	0	Prisoners	0	Prisoners
0	Dead	1	Dead	1	Dead
0	Total	20	Total	20	Total
0		20		20	
1	Carrolinian Sick	0		1	Carrolinian Sick

Sum Total fit for Duty 23, Total of the Whole 61,  
CH<sup>s</sup> SMITH

FROM COLONEL HENRY BOUQUET.

CAMP NEAR REAS TOWN 27<sup>th</sup> July 1758

DEAR SIR

I received the favour of your Letters of the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> with the inclosed Papers.

The Maryland Troops at Cumberland have received the General's orders to march to Reas Town, and the Garrison at Fort Frederic is to join them here by Loudoun in Pensilvania where they are to receive Tents.

I Shall Supply the 200 actually w<sup>t</sup> you on their arrival here; Therefore Please to Send them as Soon as you can bring them together: I thought that one Part of them Should garrison Fort Cumberland, but Since they have orders to the Contrary, they must follow them.

I have received about 100 Tents to compleat your Troops, the marylanders, and Pensilvanians, which is by far not Sufficient: I expect Soon another Supply: I Shall compleat your Six Companies here w<sup>h</sup> the two of Col Byrds: Be So good as to let me know the number you Will want absolutely to compleat the four comp<sup>s</sup> w<sup>h</sup> you, and the 8 of Col. Byrd: L<sup>t</sup> Col. Mercer tells me that the Second Reg<sup>t</sup> will want about 12 Tents in all. Soldiers Tents for officers have not been provided, and if they can not get them made I am afraid we Shall be in want.

I have no directions about your Waggons, but if you receive no orders to the Contrary from the Gen<sup>l</sup> or Sir John &c<sup>a</sup> they are to be Sent back immediately for another Convoy; and ordered to make all possible dispatch.

The case of M<sup>r</sup> Dow had been misrepresented (as usual) your Regulations for that material Branch are very just.

I come now to the most important article the determination of a Road: nothing can be greater than your generous dispositions for the Service, and the candid Exposition of your Sentiments: I See w<sup>h</sup> the utmost Satisfaction that you are above all the Influences of Prejudice, and ready to go heartily where Reason and Judgment Shall direct I wish Sincerely that we might all center in one and the Same opinion; Therefore I desire to have an Interview<sup>1</sup> with you at the houses built half Way betwixt our Camps: I will communicate to you all the Intelligence I was able to collect, and weighing impartially the advantages and disadvantages of Each Communication We Shall I hope be able between you and I, to determine what is most eligible: and Save to the General trouble and loss of time in inquiring upon the Same Subject. I hear that he was still at Carlisle on Sunday, a little Indisposed,<sup>2</sup> as he takes an Escort of Col. Montgomerys Regt. he can not well be here before Sunday next: Therefore if we meet Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Inst. we have time enough — Col. Byrd may give in your Short absence the necessary Directions for the Convoy and Waggon &c<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This interview took place, at which the subject of the two roads was fully discussed, without, however, bringing the general to Washington's views.

<sup>2</sup> "General Forbes, it is to be remembered, was taken seriously ill with camp dysentery at Carlisle, early in July, and was rarely or never after able to ride on horseback. His movement with the army was upon a litter fastened to poles suspended at the sides of horses, one walking behind the other, as in shafts, the General's litter being placed upon the poles between the horses. A detail of soldiers marched by his side to steady the General's couch." — TONER.

In the mean time Please to order back your Partys advanced upon Braddocks Road, to prevent any accident as that Road can be opened as fast as we can march if we make use of it.

It was a great Neglect in the Quarter Master General not to have given directions in time, to make magazines of Hay at Cumberland, having Such facility, and So many Hands to employ: That omission is Sufficient to ruin the Expedition, as I hear that grass is very Scarce in Several Places upon the Road, and we Shall be unable to Support the horses in the Several transports, as we can not carry the whole at once, but proceed by Deposite. — besides the continual Supply, when arrived upon the Ohio, This Consideration Seems to me of great Importance, and a Strong argument for two Communications, but that I defer to Saturday.

I am most Sincerely

Dear Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> hble serv<sup>t</sup>

HENRY BOUQUET

---

FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

FORT LOUDOUN July y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1758

S<sup>r</sup>

I have this Day Discharged the Expence on acc<sup>t</sup> of Ellection, as by the Enclosed acct<sup>s</sup> I have Sent an acc<sup>t</sup> of The proceedings by Express, also I have Sent your two horses By Col<sup>o</sup> John Carlyle, who is to receive them at your quarter and Take them down

to your Place, according to your Order, The Small Pox has not Spread in Town as yet, but the Flux is Very bad in the fort, there has been two of y<sup>e</sup> old Regiment Dead, and five of the new, Since your departure. I am but weack in the Garison, as by my weekly return to you will appear, I have Sent You a True Copy of the Poll whereby you will be a Compitent Judge of your Friend<sup>s</sup> Your Friend Joseph Carroll whom I Employ'd To take y<sup>e</sup> Poll as one of the Clerks Desires to be remembered to you. Pray Sir Excuse hast, as I am your sincere friend, and Hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

CH<sup>s</sup> SMITH

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*Election Accounts.*

July y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1758 .

George Washington Esq <sup>r</sup> Commander of y <sup>e</sup> First Virginia Regiment	D <sup>t</sup>	
To 40, Gallons of Rum Punch @ 3/6 <sup>per</sup> Gal:	7	“ 0 “ 0
To 15, Gallons of Wine @ 10/0 <sup>per</sup> Gall:	7	“ 10 “ 0
To Dinner for Your Friend <sup>s</sup> @	3	“ 0 “ 0
		<hr/>
		£17 “ 10 “ 0

FORT LOUDOUN July y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1758

Received of Lieu<sup>t</sup> Charles Smith the above acc<sup>t</sup> in Behalf of Col<sup>:</sup> George Washington

<sup>per</sup> me HENRY HETH

Test  
JOSEPH CARROLL

Col<sup>o</sup>: George Washington D<sup>r</sup>: to John Funk July 24<sup>th</sup> 1758

	£	S.	D.
To 13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Gall <sup>o</sup> of Wine @ 10/	6	15	-
To 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> pt <sup>o</sup> of Brandy @ 1/3	-	4	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
To 13 Gall <sup>o</sup> Bear @ 1/3	-	16	3
To 8 Q <sup>ts</sup> Cyder Roy <sup>l</sup> @ 1/6	-	12	-
To Punch	-	3	9
	£ 8	11	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>

FORT LOUDOUN July 26<sup>th</sup> 1758

Receiv<sup>d</sup> of Leut. Ch<sup>o</sup> Smith the above Acco<sup>t</sup> in the Behalf of  
Col<sup>o</sup>: George Washington

For me,  
JOHN FUNK

Test  
JOSEPH CARROLL

Cor<sup>l</sup>: George Washington D<sup>r</sup>: To Henry Brinker July y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1758  
one the Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Election

To Thirty Gall<sup>o</sup> of Strong Beer at 8<sup>d</sup> 10<sup>r</sup> Gall<sup>o</sup> . . . or - -

Rec<sup>d</sup> y<sup>e</sup> above Acc<sup>t</sup> of Leu<sup>t</sup> Charles Smith one the Acc<sup>t</sup> of Cor<sup>l</sup>  
George Washington

July y<sup>e</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> For me  
1758

Test  
ROB<sup>t</sup> FOX

HAWKINS CHILDS.

D<sup>r</sup>: Col<sup>o</sup>: George Washington By order of Lieu<sup>t</sup>: Cha<sup>s</sup>: Smith  
To ALEX<sup>R</sup>: WODROW

WINCHESTER

1758

July 24 For 1 hhd & 1 Barrell of Punch  
consisting of 26 Gal<sup>s</sup>: best Barbadoes

Rum 5/ , 6: 10: -

& 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lb<sup>s</sup>: S Ref<sup>d</sup>: Sugar — 1/6 -- 18: 9

To 6 Gallons best Madiera Wine }  
of M<sup>r</sup>: Tho<sup>s</sup>: Limen }

10/ 3: -: -

£10: 8: 9

Rec<sup>d</sup>: of Lieu<sup>t</sup>: Charles Smith Ten Pounds Eight Shill<sup>s</sup>: and nine  
pence in full of the Above Acco<sup>t</sup>:

ALEX<sup>R</sup>: WODROW

Test

JOSEPH CARROLL

1758

July y<sup>e</sup>: 24<sup>th</sup>

George Washington Esq<sup>r</sup>: Col<sup>o</sup>:  
of The First Virginia Regiam<sup>t</sup>: D<sup>r</sup>:

To 3 Gallons and 3 Quarts of Beer @ 1/0 <sup>q<sup>r</sup></sup>:  
Gall:

0 " 3 " 9

To 10 Bowls of Punch @ 2/6d Each

1 " 5 " 0

To 9 half Pints of Rum @ 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Each

0 " 5 " 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

To 1 Pint of Wine @

0 " 1 " 6

£ 1 " 15 " 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

17 " 10 " 0

Received the above acct From

8 " 11 " 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Lieu<sup>t</sup>: Charles Smith <sup>q<sup>r</sup></sup>:

1 " 0 " 0

JN<sup>o</sup>: HITE

10 " 8 " 9

39 " 6 " 0

COL<sup>o</sup>: WASHINGTON His  
Acc<sup>t</sup>:

AN ALPHABETICAL POLL FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, TAKEN  
THE 24TH DAY OF JULY, 1758.<sup>1</sup>

Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>a</sup> Sweringen
Rob <sup>t</sup> Ashby . . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Ashby . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Thomas Ashby . . . . .	Thomas Ashby . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Allan . . . . .	Robert Allan . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
John Ashby . . . . .	John Ashby . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Stephen Ashby . . . . . 5	Steph <sup>a</sup> Ashby . . . . . 5	. . . . .	. . . . .
John Alderson . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Alderson Rev <sup>d</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Armstrong . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Armstrong . . . . .	. . . . .
John Allan Tayl <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
John Arnold . . . . .	. . . . .	John Arnold . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	John Anderson . . . . .	John Anderson . . . . .
<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>
James Burn . . . . .	James Burn . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Dennis Bow . . . . . 10	Dennis Bow . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Christ <sup>r</sup> Beiler . . . . .	. . . . .	Christopher Beiler . . . . .	. . . . .
And <sup>a</sup> Blackburn . . . . .	And <sup>a</sup> Blackburn . . . . . 10	. . . . .	. . . . .
James Ballenger . . . . .	. . . . .	James Ballenger . . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Burner . . . . .	Jacob Burner . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Bombgardner . . . . . 15	Jn <sup>o</sup> Bombgardner . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Sam <sup>l</sup> Blackburn . . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Blackburn . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Babb . . . . .	. . . . .	Thomas Babb . . . . .	. . . . .
Charles Baker . . . . .	Ch <sup>s</sup> Baker . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Sam <sup>l</sup> Beam . . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Beam . . . . . 15	. . . . .	. . . . .
Reynald Baldwin . . . . . 20	Rey <sup>d</sup> Baldwin . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rich <sup>d</sup> Barker . . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Barber . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
John Blair . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Blair . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Bowman . . . . .	Jacob Bowman . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
George Bower . . . . .	Geo: Bower . . . . . 20	. . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Biber . . . . . 25	Henry Biber . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Martin Black . . . . .	Martin Black . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Philip Babb . . . . .	. . . . .	Philip Babb . . . . .	. . . . .
James Burne . . . . .	James Burne . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Baldwin . . . . .	. . . . .	William Baldwin . . . . .	. . . . .

<sup>1</sup> The list of voters sent to Washington by Captain Smith gives the names regardless of alphabetical arrangement. Washington's own fair copy is entirely in his own characteristically clear and well-balanced handwriting. It is from his copy that this print is made. In addition to enabling Washington "to judge of his friends," it is an interesting list of the freeholders of Frederick County.

By the Act of Assembly declaring who should have a right to vote in elections of Burgesses to serve in the General Assembly, for counties, and for preventing fraudulent conveyances, in order to multiply votes at such elections, the qualification of voters was that no person or persons whatsoever should have the right to vote at any election who had not an estate of freehold, or other greater estate, in one hundred acres of land at least, if no settlement or improvement had been made on it; or twenty-five acres with a house and plantation, in his possession, or in the possession of his tenant or tenants, for term of years, in the same county where he gave such vote. But if any person or persons should have such estate in one hundred acres of land, uninhabited, or upwards, lying in two or more counties, such persons should have the right only to vote in that county wherein the greater quantity of said land lay, although the same should not amount to one hundred acres in either county. — HENING, vol. iv. pp. 475-478.



Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>o</sup> Sweringen
Jn <sup>o</sup> Chinoweth . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Chinoweth . . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Coil . . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Coil . . . . . 40	. . . . .
Ja <sup>s</sup> Carter (jun <sup>r</sup> ) . . . . .	. . . . .	Ja <sup>s</sup> Carter Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .
Edw <sup>d</sup> Cartwell/ . . . . .	Edw <sup>d</sup> Cartwell . . . . . 55	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jo <sup>s</sup> Combs . . . . . 80	Jo <sup>s</sup> Combs . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Chambers . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Chambers . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
	Ja <sup>s</sup> Carter . . . . .	Ja <sup>s</sup> Carter . . . . .	
	W <sup>m</sup> Chaplin . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Chaplin . . . . . 45	
	Tho <sup>s</sup> Caton . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Caton . . . . .	
	Tho <sup>s</sup> Colston . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Colston . . . . .	
	James Cromley . . . . .	James Cromley . . . . .	
	W <sup>m</sup> Calmes . . . . . 65	W <sup>m</sup> Calmes . . . . .	
		Tho <sup>s</sup> Cordery . . . . . 50	Tho <sup>s</sup> Cordery . . . . . 5
D	D	D	D
M <sup>r</sup> Cha <sup>s</sup> Dick . . . . .	M <sup>r</sup> Cha <sup>s</sup> Dick . . . . .		
Jn <sup>o</sup> Dyer . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Dyer . . . . .		
Edw <sup>d</sup> Dodd . . . . .	. . . . .	Edw <sup>s</sup> Dodd . . . . .	. . . . .
David Dedrick . . . . . 85	David Dedrick . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Thomas Doster . . . . .	. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Doster . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Dow . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Dow . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Patrick Duncan . . . . .	Pat <sup>t</sup> Duncan . . . . . 75	. . . . .	. . . . .
	W <sup>m</sup> Duckworth . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Duckworth . . . . .	. . . . .
E	E	E	E
Isaac Evans . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Isaac Evans . . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Evans . . . . . 90	W <sup>m</sup> Evans . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jos <sup>s</sup> Edwards Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	Jos <sup>s</sup> Edwards Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Ewings . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Ewings . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
	Henry Easton . . . . .	Henry Easton . . . . .	. . . . .
	Tho <sup>s</sup> Ellis . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Ellis . . . . . 55	. . . . .
F	F	F	F
Tho <sup>s</sup> L <sup>d</sup> Fairfax . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> L <sup>d</sup> Fairfax . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Paul Frowman . . . . .	Paul Frowman . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rich <sup>d</sup> Foley . . . . . 95	Rich <sup>d</sup> Foley . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Abr <sup>m</sup> Fry . . . . .	Abr <sup>m</sup> . . . . . 80	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Fry . . . . .	Jacob Fry . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Joseph Fry . . . . .	Joseph Fry . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Benj <sup>m</sup> Fry . . . . .	Benj <sup>m</sup> Fry . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Funk . . . . . 100	Henry Funk . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Martin Funk . . . . .	Martin Funk . . . . . 85	. . . . .	. . . . .
Joseph Fossett . . . . .	Joseph Fossett . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Sam <sup>l</sup> Fry . . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Fry . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Joseph Funk . . . . .	Jos. Funk . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Funkhauser . . . . . 105	Jn <sup>o</sup> Funkhauser . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Richard Fosset . . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Fosset . . . . . 90	. . . . .	. . . . .
Wil <sup>m</sup> Frost . . . . .	. . . . .	Wil <sup>m</sup> Frost . . . . .	. . . . .
Matthias Funk . . . . .	Matthias Funk . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
George Farrar . . . . .	George Farrar . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Isaac Foster . . . . . 110	. . . . .	Isaac Foster . . . . .	. . . . .
Col <sup>o</sup> Geo. W <sup>m</sup> Fairfax . . . . .	Col <sup>o</sup> G. W <sup>m</sup> Fairfax . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Fossett . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Fossett . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .

Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>o</sup> Swearingen
Capt <sup>o</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Funk . . . .	Capt <sup>o</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Funk . 95	Jn <sup>o</sup> Fife . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	John Fife . . . . .	Martin Funk . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Martin Funk . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
G	G	G	G
John Glenn . . . . .	David Glass . . . . .	. . . . .	John Glenn . . . . .
David Glass . . . . . 115	James Grinnan . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
James Grinnan . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Glover . . . . . 100	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Glover . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Gaddis . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Gaddis . 60	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Gaddis . . . . .	Jos <sup>h</sup> Glass . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jos <sup>h</sup> Glass . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Grinnan . . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Glass . . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Glass . . . . . 120	Christ <sup>r</sup> Grable . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
John Grinnan . . . . .	Phillip Glass . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Christ <sup>r</sup> Grable . . . . .	Edw <sup>d</sup> Griffith . . . . . 105	Edw <sup>d</sup> Griffith . . . . .	. . . . .
Phillip Glass . . . . .	Jacob Gibson . . . . .	Jacob Gibson . . . . .	. . . . .
H	H	H	H
Adam Hunter . . . . .	Adam Hunter . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Noah Hampton . . . . . 125	Noah Hampton . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Harbinger . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Harbinger . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rev <sup>d</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Hoge . . . . .	Rev <sup>d</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Hoge . . . . . 110	. . . . .	. . . . .
George Hardin . . . . .	George Hardin . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Housman . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Housman . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
James Hoge, Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . . 130	. . . . .	James Hoge Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Heth . . . . .	. . . . .	Henry Heth . 65	. . . . .
Geo : Henry . . . . .	George Henry . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Nich <sup>s</sup> Hanshaw . . . . .	. . . . .	Nich <sup>s</sup> Hanshaw . . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Hart . . . . .	. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Hart . . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Harper . . . . . 135	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Harper . . . . .	. . . . .
Geo : Huddle . . . . .	George Huddle . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Murtle Handley . . . . .	. . . . .	Murtle Handley . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Harrom . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Harrom . 70	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Hope . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Hope . . . . . 115	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Hite . . . . . 140	Stephen Hotzenbell . . . . .	Jacob Hite . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Stephen Hotzenbell . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Halpenny . . . . .	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Halpenny . . . . .
. . . . .	Godfrey Humbert . . . . .	Godfrey Humbert . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Hampton . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Hampton . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Haines . . . . . 120	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Haines . . . . .
Col <sup>o</sup> Jn <sup>o</sup> Hite . . . . .	Col <sup>o</sup> John Hite . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	James Hog . . . . .	James Hog . 75	. . . . .
. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Helms . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Helms . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Helms . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Helms . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Highland . . . . . 125	Richard Highland . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	George Hampton . . . . .	George Hampton . . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	ton . . . . . 10	ton . . . . . 10
. . . . .	. . . . .	Simeon Hyat 80	Simeon Hyatt . . . . .

Colo Washington	Colo Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>a</sup> Swearingen
.....	.....	Joseph Horner	Jo <sup>o</sup> Horner
.....	.....	Jonus Hedge	Jonus Hedge
Isaac Hite	.....	Jno House	Jn <sup>o</sup> House
I	I	I	I
Peter Jordan	Peter Jordan	.....	Aaron Jenkins
Aaron Jenkins	.....	.....	Aaron Jenkins
Daniel Johnston 145	.....	Dan <sup>l</sup> Johnston	..... 15
Rob <sup>t</sup> Johnston Gen <sup>t</sup>	Rob <sup>t</sup> Johnston Gen <sup>t</sup>	.....	.....
Stephen Johnston	.....	Stephen John- ston	.....
Jos <sup>b</sup> Jones	.....	Jos <sup>b</sup> Jones	.....
Jn <sup>o</sup> Jones	.....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Jones	.....
W <sup>m</sup> Joliffe J <sup>r</sup> 130	.....	W <sup>m</sup> Joliffe jun <sup>r</sup>	.....
Gabriel Jones Gent	Gabriel Jones Gent	Sam <sup>l</sup> Isaacs	.....
K	K	K	K
George Keller	George Keller	.....	.....
James Knight	James Knight 130	Jn <sup>o</sup> Keywood 90	Jn <sup>o</sup> Keywood
L	L	L	L
Field <sup>s</sup> Lewis Esq <sup>r</sup>	Field <sup>s</sup> Lewis Esq <sup>r</sup>	.....	.....
Tho <sup>s</sup> Lemon 155	Tho <sup>s</sup> Lemon	.....	.....
Joseph Lupton	.....	Joseph Lupton	.....
W <sup>m</sup> Lupton	.....	William Lupton	.....
Edward Lucas	.....	.....	Edward Lucas
Samuel Littler	.....	Sam <sup>l</sup> Littler	.....
James Loyd 160	.....	James Loyd	.....
And <sup>r</sup> Longacre	And <sup>r</sup> Longacre	.....	.....
Jos <sup>h</sup> Langdon	Jos. Langdon	.....	.....
Geo: Mich <sup>l</sup> Lovenger	.....	G. M. Lovenger	.....
Francis Lilburn	.....	..... 95	.....
Geo: Lochmiller 165	Geo: Lochmiller 135	Fran <sup>s</sup> Lilburn	.....
Isaac Laren	Isaac Laren	.....	.....
Rob <sup>t</sup> Lemon	.....	Rob <sup>t</sup> Lemon	.....
.....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Lemon	Jn <sup>o</sup> Lemon	.....
.....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Leith	Jn <sup>o</sup> Leith	.....
.....	Nich <sup>s</sup> Lemon	Nich <sup>s</sup> Lemon	.....
.....	Henry Loyd 140	Henry Loyd 100	.....
.....	Jn <sup>o</sup> Lindsay	Jn <sup>o</sup> Lindsay	.....
.....	.....	James Lindsay	James Lindsay
.....	.....	Tho <sup>s</sup> Loudon	Tho <sup>s</sup> Loudon 20
.....	.....	Edmond Lind- say	Ed <sup>d</sup> Lindsay
.....	.....	..... 105	.....

Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>s</sup> Swearingen
M	M	M	M
Rev <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Meldrum . . .	Rev <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Meldrum . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Gee . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Gee . . . . .
David Miller . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	David Miller . . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Marney . . . . . 170	Rob <sup>t</sup> Marney . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jo <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Dowell . . . . .	Jo <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Dowell . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
David Morgan . . . . .	. . . . .	David Morgan . . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Mahan . . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Mahan . . . . .	. . . . .
Rich <sup>d</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Mahan . . . . . 175	. . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Mahan . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Milburn . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Milburn . . . . .	. . . . .
Ja <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Gill . . . . .	. . . . .	Ja <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Gill . . . . . 110	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Coy . . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Coy . . . . . 145	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Morgan . . . . .	. . . . .	Jacob Morgan . . . . .	. . . . .
Laughlen Maddin . . . . . 180	. . . . .	Laugh <sup>n</sup> Maddin . . . . .	. . . . .
Jos. M <sup>c</sup> Carmish . . . . .	. . . . .	Jo <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Carmish . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Maddin . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Maddin . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jo <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Carmick . . . . .	. . . . .	Jo <sup>s</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Carmick . . . . .	. . . . .
Jno. M <sup>c</sup> Cormick . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Cormick . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Moore Gen . . . . .	Hen. Moore Gen <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Milburn . . . . .	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Milburn . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . . 115	. . . . .
Darby M <sup>c</sup> Carty . . . . .	Darby McCarty . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Monger . . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Monger . . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Miller . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Miller . . . . . 150	. . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Mason . . . . . 190	. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Mason . . . . .	. . . . .
Darby Murphey . . . . .	Darby Murphey . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Pat <sup>t</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Daniel . . . . .	Pat <sup>t</sup> M <sup>c</sup> Daniel . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Lewis Moore . . . . .	Lewis Moore . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Mercer . . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Mercer . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Mayberry Maddin . . . . .	May. Maddin . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Col: M. Morgan . . . . . 175	Col: M. Mor- gan . . . . . 120	. . . . .
. . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Morgan . . . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Morgan . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jacob Miller . . . . .	Jacob Miller . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Edw <sup>d</sup> Mercer Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	Edward Mercer Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Mendenhall . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Mendenhall . . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Morgan Morgan . . . . .	M. Morgan jr 25 . . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . . 125	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Jacob Moon . . . . .	Jacob Moon . . . . .
N	N	N	N
George Neirl . . . . .	Geo. Neirl . . . . . 160	. . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Nisewanger . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Nisewanger . . . . .	. . . . .
P	P	P	P
Isaac Perkins . . . . .	. . . . .	Isaac Perkins . . . . .	. . . . .
Nich <sup>s</sup> Princeller . . . . .	Nich <sup>s</sup> Princeller . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Mich <sup>l</sup> Poker . . . . .	Mich <sup>l</sup> Poker . . . . . 165	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Patterson . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Patterson . . . . .
Geo: Paul . . . . . 200	. . . . .	. . . . .	Geo: Paul . . . . .
Cha <sup>s</sup> Perkins . . . . .	. . . . .	Cha <sup>s</sup> Perkins . . . . .	. . . . .

Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>o</sup> Swearingen
Law <sup>o</sup> Pence . . . . .	Law <sup>o</sup> Pence . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Pickering . . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Pickering . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Sa . . . . .	. . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Pearson <sup>130</sup> . . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Pearson . . . . .
Jesse Pugh . . . . .	. . . . .	Job Pugh . . . . .	Job Pugh . . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Postgate . . . . . 205	Thos. Postgate . . . . .	Jesse Pugh . . . . .	. . . . .
Josiah Pemberton . . . . .	. . . . .	Jos : Pemberton . . . . .	. . . . .
Jos : Parrell . . . . .	. . . . .	Parrell . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Parrell . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Parrell . . . . .	. . . . .
Peter Perry . . . . .	Peter Perry . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Philip Poker . . . . . 210	Phil. Poker . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Perry . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Perry . . . . . 170	. . . . .	. . . . .
Azariah Pugh . . . . .	. . . . .	Azariah Pugh . . . . .	. . . . .
Jonathan Perkins . . . . .	. . . . .	Jon : Perkins . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Painter . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Painter . . . . .
. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Pearis . . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Pearis . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Pugh . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Pugh <sup>140</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Pritchard . . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Pritchard . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	George Pember- ton . . . . .	Geo : Pemberton . . . . .
R	R	R	R
W <sup>m</sup> Russell . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Russell . . . . . 175	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Road . . . . . 215	Jn <sup>o</sup> Road . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Rutherford . . . . .	Capt <sup>o</sup> Rutherford . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Reece . . . . .	. . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Reece . . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Reece . . . . .	. . . . .	Jacob Reece . . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Rinker . . . . .	. . . . .	Henry Rinker . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
George Ross . . . . . 220	. . . . .	Geo : Ross <sup>145</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .
Patrick Rice . . . . .	. . . . .	Patrick Rice . . . . .	. . . . .
Edward Rice . . . . .	. . . . .	Ed <sup>d</sup> Rice . . . . .	. . . . .
Geo Rice . . . . .	. . . . .	Geo Rice . . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Reynolds . . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Reynolds . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Isaac Riddell . . . . . 225	Isaac Riddell . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Reece . . . . .	. . . . .	Henry Reece . . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Roberts . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Roberts . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> Roberts Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Roberts Jun <sup>r</sup> 180 . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Reed . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Ulrich Rubble . . . . . 230	. . . . .	Ulrich Rubbell . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jos : Roberts . . . . .	Jos : Roberts . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Edward Rogers . . . . .	Ed <sup>d</sup> Rogers 155 . . . . .	. . . . .
Cornel <sup>o</sup> Ruddell . . . . .	Cor <sup>o</sup> Ruddle . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
S	S	S	S
Lieut <sup>t</sup> Cha <sup>s</sup> Smith . . . . .	. . . . .	L <sup>t</sup> Ch <sup>s</sup> Smith . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Smith . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Smith . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Peter Stephens . . . . .	Peter Stephens 185 . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Snap . . . . . 235	Jn <sup>o</sup> Snap . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Snap, Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Snap . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Dan <sup>l</sup> Stover . . . . .	Dan <sup>l</sup> Stover . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Stephens . . . . .	Henry Stephens . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Strickler . . . . .	Jacob Strickler 190 . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .

Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>a</sup> Swearingen
Benj <sup>s</sup> Strickler . . . 240	Benj. Strickler . . .	. . . . .	David Snodgrass
David Snodgrass . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Snodgrass 35
Jn <sup>o</sup> Snodgrass . . .	Law <sup>o</sup> Smalgolfer . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Law <sup>o</sup> Smalgolfer . . .	. . . . .	Nich <sup>s</sup> Schrack . . .	. . . . .
Nich <sup>s</sup> Schrack . . .	Ulrich Stoner . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Ulrich Stoner . . . 205	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Stewart . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Stewart . . .	. . . . .	Jacob Sowers . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Sowers . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Strickley . . .	. . . . .	Jon <sup>a</sup> Seaman . . .
Jon <sup>a</sup> Seaman . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Sewell . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Strickley . . .	. . . . .	Jacob Sebert 160 . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Sewell . . . 250	Jos: Strickler . . . 195	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Sebert . . .	. . . . .	David Shepherd . . .	. . . . .
Jos: Strickler . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Small . . . . .	. . . . .
David Shepherd . . .	Lewis Stephens . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Shepherd . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Small . . .	Jacob Stover . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Shepherd . . . 255	. . . . .	Dennis Springer . . .	. . . . .
Lewis Stephens . . .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Stephenson . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Stover . . .	Ed <sup>w</sup> Snickers . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Dennis Springer . . .	Law <sup>o</sup> Snapp . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rich <sup>d</sup> Stephenson . . .	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Stewart . . .	. . . . .
Ed <sup>w</sup> Snickers . . . 260	. . . . .	Dan <sup>l</sup> Stephens . . .	. . . . .
Law <sup>o</sup> Snapp . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Stewart . . .	Geo: Shade . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Speake . . .	. . . . .
Dan <sup>l</sup> Stephens . . .	. . . . .	Law <sup>o</sup> Stephens . . .	. . . . .
Geo: Shade . . .	Law <sup>o</sup> Stephens . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Sharp . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Speake . . . 265	Tho <sup>s</sup> Sharp . . .	Jerem <sup>a</sup> Smith . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jer <sup>s</sup> Smith . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Peter Stover . . . 205	Peter Stover . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Stevenson . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Stevenson . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Scene . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Scene . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Stroud . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Stroud . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
T	T	T	T
Jos. Thompson . . .	. . . . .	Jo <sup>s</sup> Thompson . . .	. . . . .
Evan Thomas . . .	. . . . .	Evan Thomas . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Thomas . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Thomas . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Taylor . . .	. . . . .
Sam <sup>l</sup> Taylor . . .	. . . . .	Anth. Turner . . .	. . . . .
Anth. Turner . . . 275	Ellis Thomas . . .	Anth <sup>y</sup> Turner . . .	. . . . .
Ellis Thomas . . .	. . . . .	Jun <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .
Anth <sup>y</sup> Turner Jun <sup>r</sup> . . .	Harrison Taylor 216 . . .	Ed <sup>d</sup> Thomas . . .	. . . . .
Harr <sup>a</sup> Taylor . . .	Zebulon Sharp . . .	Simon Taylor . . .	. . . . .
Edw <sup>d</sup> Thomas . . .	Simon Taylor . . .	Owen Thomas . . .	Owen Thomas . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Taylor . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Taylor . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	Magnus Tate . . .	Magnus Tate . . .
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . . 185	. . . . .

Col <sup>o</sup> Washington	Col <sup>o</sup> Martin	M <sup>r</sup> West	Capt <sup>a</sup> Swearingen
V	V	V	V
Alex <sup>r</sup> Vance . . . 275	Ja <sup>r</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .	Alex <sup>r</sup> Vance . . . . .
James Vance . . . . .	Sam <sup>l</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Sam <sup>l</sup> Vance . . . . .	And <sup>r</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
And <sup>r</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Vanmeter . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Vanmeter . . . . .
Abram. Vanmeter. 280	. . . . .	. . . . .	Ab <sup>m</sup> Vanmeter . . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Vestal . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Vestal . . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Vanmeter . . . . .	. . . . .	Jacob Vanmeter . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Vance . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Henry Vanmeter . . . . .	. . . . .	Henry Vanmeter . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Fred <sup>t</sup> Vanfagan 285	Jn <sup>o</sup> Fred <sup>t</sup> Vanfagan . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	David Vance . . . . .	David Vance . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	Jo <sup>s</sup> Vance . . . . .	Jo <sup>s</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Vance . . . 220	W <sup>m</sup> Vance . . . . .	. . . . .
W	W	W	W
Col <sup>o</sup> Ja <sup>s</sup> Wood . . . . .	. . . . .	Col <sup>o</sup> Ja <sup>s</sup> Wood . . . . .	. . . . .
Alex <sup>r</sup> Woodrow Gent <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	. . . . .	Alex <sup>r</sup> Woodrow . . . . .	. . . . .
Peter Woolf . . . . .	Peter Woolf . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Isaac White . . . . .	Isaac White . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Geo. Whitzel . . . . .	Geo. Whitzel . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
James Wright . . . . .	. . . . .	Jas. Wright . . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Wilson . . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Wilson . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Geo. Wright . . . . .	Geo. Wright . . . 225	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jacob Wright . . . . .	Jacob Wright . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
David Wright . . . 395	David Wright . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Chr <sup>s</sup> Wendall . . . . .	Chr <sup>s</sup> Wendall . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Aug <sup>o</sup> Wendall . . . . .	Aug <sup>o</sup> Wendall . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
James Wilson . . . . .	James Wilson . . . 230	. . . . .	. . . . .
Val <sup>o</sup> Wendall . . . . .	Val <sup>o</sup> Wendall . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Tho <sup>s</sup> Waters . . . . .	Tho <sup>s</sup> Waters . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jos. Wilkinson . . . . .	. . . . .	Jos. Wilkinson . . . . .	. . . . .
Rob <sup>t</sup> Worthington . . . . .	. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Worthington . . . . .	. . . . .
Ralph Withers . . . 305	Ralph Withers . . . 235	. . . . .	. . . . .
Jno Wilson . . . . .	. . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Wilson . . . . .	. . . . .
Jn <sup>o</sup> Wright . . . . .	Jn <sup>o</sup> Wright . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
W <sup>m</sup> White . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> White . . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> White . . . . .	. . . . .
. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Wilson . . . . .	. . . . .	W <sup>m</sup> Wilson . . . . .
. . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Warth . . . . .	Rob <sup>t</sup> Warth . . . . .	. . . . .
Y	Y	Y	Y
Jn <sup>o</sup> Young . . . . 309	Jn <sup>o</sup> Young . . . . 239	. . . . 199	. . . . 45

**DUPLICATE**

FROM COLONEL ADAM STEPHEN.

CAMP NEAR RAES-TOWN July 27<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR,

There is nothing new here — By last accounts the General was indispos'd & had not left Carlisle, on Sunday.

By all reports, there has been a great miscarriage at an Enemy's post call'd the Saw-Mill within two miles of Ticonderogo — We have have no distinct account of the Affair, nor is it known here, who Commanded the Attack; It is imagind that the Advanced Party, or rather First Division, made too great hast forward; befor the Body of the Army were at hand to Support them.

I expect you soon will have the Regiment together, but as you will have an interview with Col. Bouquet in a few days I shall refer saying any thing of it —

The purport of your meeting is to Consult measures for expediting matters, & the Roads will be the Chief Subject, I give you this hint, that may you have in readiness, what is to be said on that head, and am with respect

Sir

Your most Ob<sup>t</sup> hu<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

ADAM STEPHEN



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