

**Francis Halkett to George Washington, August 2, 1758,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM MAJOR FRANCIS HALKETT.

CAMP AT CARLISLE 2d. August 1758.

DEAR WASHINGTON

I Received your letter, & Returns from Fort Cumberland. — as to my giving you my advice about the covers for your locks, I think you are the properest judge what can be done at F. Cumberland, being immediately upon the Spot, and we can send you no assistance from hence, as many as can, I would provide, those you cannot, their is no helpe for, their Blankets will always be a great safety to them.¹ —

It is necessary the Troops from Virginia — should have a Brigade Major the same as Pennsylvania, and the General expects that you will be provided with one against you join, it is intirely a Provincial affairs, & to be of your own appointing, the recommendation General Forbes leaves to you, if it is to be Stewart, he must be as Captain to your Battalion, & Brigade Major, an other Officer must be appointed Captain to the Troop, he already holds two Commissions, both as Captain in your Battalion, & of the light Troop, his having more would be inconvenient. — Major Shippen has ten Shillings pr day extraordinary, allowd him by the Commissioners of Pinsylvania, for being Brigade Major.

Make my appology to Captain Stewart for not being able to write to him at this time, he will send his Return of the Troop to me, the same as he did with General Braddock, as he is a

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distinct Corps, the detachment that he sent down to Lancaster, are all sent to Reastown.

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The General has been much afflicted with the Flux, he still is extreemly weak, but I am in hopes he will soon be able to set out for Reas town.² I am Dear Washington

Your most obedient Servant and ever well wisher FRANCIS HALKETT

A Daily Return of the Virginia Detachmt. Under the Command of Lt. Colo. Stephens Camp at Raystown August the 2d. 1758 #

Commissd. Officers Staff Non Commissd. Effective Rank & File Since last Return Present
on Commd To Mount Companies Colo. Lt. Colo. Majr. Capts. Lts. Ens. Capts. Lieuts.
Ensignes Adjuts. Qr. Masters Surgeons Mates Serjts. Fifts Drums Serjts. Drums Fit for
duty Sick On Commd. on Pubk. Work Camp Colr. men Prisoners Total Serjts. Corpl.
Private Colo. Washingtons . . . 1 1 1 2 2 2 1 . 51 5 16 10 6 . 88 2 3 48 Lt.
Colo. Stephens . 1 . . 2 . . . 1 3 . 1 1 . 58 5 14 5 6 . 88 3 2 56 Maj. Lewises . . 1 . 2
1 3 . 2 . . 52 4 17 2 6 . 81 3 3 49 Capt. Rt. Stewarts 1 1 . 1 3 . 2 1 . 54
4 15 4 6 . 83 2 3 51 Capt. Bullets 2 1 1 3 . 2 1 . 55 6 18 2 6 . 87 2 3 52 Capt.
Walts. Stewarts . . . 1 1 . . 1 1 4 2 2 . . 57 5 20 4 6 . 92 1 3 54 Capt. Fieldses 2
1 1 4 17 . 79 . . 96 Total . 1 1 2 11 4 2 2 2 . . . 1 22 4 11 4 . 327 46 100
106 36 . 615 13 17 310 Visiting officer Lt. BakerE. Hubbard Lt. Adj.

1 "DEAR HALKET, — ... It is morally impossible to get at this place covers for our gun-locks; having nothing but neats hydes to make them of, and an insufficiency of those to answer the purpose — The Commissarys ask 18/ a piece for them. Pray give me your advice on this case... . Yours most affectionately, GEO: WASHINGTON."

2 Early in July General Forbes contracted camp dysentery, from the effects of which he never entirely recovered; but he never lost his characteristic energy and indomitable will. He continued in command of the expedition during the entire campaign, discharging his duties stretched upon a litter slung between two horses, in this condition he performed the perilous journey from Loyal Hannon to Fort Du Quesne. He returned to Philadelphia January 24, 1759, and died in that city March to. In a letter to Governor Fauquier of November 28, Washington bore testimony to the conduct of this gallant soldier, saying: "General Forbes is very assiduous in getting these matters settled upon a solid basis, and has great merit for the happy issue to which he has brought our affairs, infirm and worn down as he is." On the site of old Fort Du Quesne stands to-day the rich and prosperous city of Pittsburg. To John Forbes, William Pitt (after whom Forbes named it), and to George Washington, with his Virginians, it is indeed a noble monument.