

Success, this I flatter myself with the hopes of seeing soon as I Letter Bk. II.  
make no Doubt but a proper Representation of the present  
Posture of Affairs on this Continent has been made home &  
that our Situation & Condition will be taken into Consideration.  
this our past & present Parsimony & Supineness absolutely  
requires which has prevented our being at this time in posses-  
sion of a fine Country that the French are making themselves  
Masters of & whence they will not be dislodged but at a great  
Expençe. thus far I had writ some weeks since designing to  
address it to your Ldp by the first opportunity of Conveyance  
that should offer but none having till now occurred I have had  
it transcribed & thereto added a few Lines to inform your Ldp  
that I have received a Commission which his Majesty has been  
pleased to honour me with whereby I am ordered to take the  
Command of all the Forces that shall be employed in this part  
of the Continent against His Majestys & this Country's  
Enemies, in pursuance of this I am making some necessary  
preparations for taking the Field or rather the woods this  
winter in hopes of being able if the neighbouring Govern-  
ments will make a proper addition to the Troops above num-  
bered to carry the Fort which the Enemy as I have before p. 18  
noticed have built on the Ohio at the Forks of Monongahela or  
one that they have built farther up the River nearer Lake Erie.  
The Possession of either of these would enable us to cut off if  
we are properly supported the Communication that they are  
sollicitous to establish by a Chain of Forts from Montreal to  
New Orleans near the mouth of the River Mississippi, & would  
also prevent the total Loss of a Trade that these Colonies have  
hitherto enjoyed with the Indian Natives of which we are  
already almost utterly deprived. A small Number of Men  
from home would I persuade myself have rendered me equal  
to this Task but as I cannot expect to see Troops transported  
hither to be under my Direction I will endeavour to do the best  
I can with those I have the honour to command & will hope  
that I may be able to give you such an Account of my Conduct  
as I flatter myself your good wishes for me makes you desirous  
of seeing. in the mean time I would beg the favour of you to  
signify to me whether it would become me at any time to take  
the Liberty to submit my Transactions & Behaviour in the  
Execution of my Commission to His Royal Highness or satisfy  
myself with laying them only before the Ministry & yourself  
whom I will beg leave to trouble as often as I have any thing  
of importance to write on. Your Ldp will have the goodness  
to excuse my sending this in a different Character from what  
I designed & attribute it to my being entirely engrossed by  
some Business that demands to be dispatched before I can  
leave this place & Y<sup>r</sup> Ldp will I hope beleive me to be with the  
greatest respect & regard  
Y<sup>r</sup> Ldps &c.