

Letter Bk. II. thereof & the money being left to my Disposal desired his Directions how it should be expended for His Majesty's Service at the same time hinting to him the Expediency & necessity of laying in a proper quantity of Provisions which had been shamefully procured furnished & managed by his Commissary M^r Carlile in answer to my Letter he desired I would raise a Company of 100 Men with the utmost Expedition & send them to join the Forces from N Carolina & Virg^a & the 3 Independant Companies (which together would make a Body he said of 1100 Men) at Wills Creek in Sept^r Accordingly I proceeded to form a Company cloath & accoutre them, having ordered Col^o Cresap who lives in Maryland about 15 Miles from Wills Creek to purchase & instantly lay in at his house on Acco^t of this province provision of Meat & Flour enough for at least 100 Men during a twelve month, which Orders of mine were punctually obeyed. The Latter End of Sept^r the first Division of the Maryland Company marched for Wills-Creek & the Officers received my urgent Orders to compleat the Company with the utmost Dispatch & muster at Colo.

p. 75 Cresap's. At the same time I received a Letter from Col^o Washington at Alexandria wherein he acquainted me that he was in hourly Expectation of Money & Orders from Gov^r Dinwiddie to conduct the Virg^a Troops & join the Independants who then rendezvoused at Wills Creek but before many Days had elapsed I was informed by Gov^r Dinwiddie himself that he had just then been obliged to prorogue the Assembly of that province because they would not grant a Sum of Money for the Service in such a manner as he could concur with. this Circumstance says he has made me give over all thoughts of acting this Fall especially as the Virg^a Troops by their Defeat Deaths & Desertions are now reduced to 150 & the N Carolina Forces have all disbanded themselves which was occasioned by a monstrous Management of them from the Beginning. They raised £12000 procla. Money. The president of that Colony gave the private Men 3/ a Day & the Officers in proportion so that their Money was wholly expended before they joined the other Forces & w^d serve no longer without assurance of the above pay under these great Disappointments I determine to keep the few people we have in pay & propose 100 of them to march to Wills Creek to join the Independant Companies & to endeavour to secure a pass over the Alegany Mountains by erecting a Fort & leaving a sufficient number of Men therein with a proper Quantity of provisions to facilitate our Operations next Spring which is all I think possible to be done now. In October Governor Dobbs arrived as I before informed you & while I was at Williamsburg the Assembly of that Gov^t granted £20000 more for the