

Letter Bk. I. no very sanguine hopes of finding them better disposed at this time to comply with his Requisitions by contributing Supplies for the Uses for which the General at this time sollicitis them. I hear the Virginians have voted £6000 for those purposes but cannot as yet Learn by what Scheme or means the Sum is to be raised tho it is reported that they will think of some kind of Lottery, Money being exceedingly scarce in that Govern^t By the Advice of your Ldp's Council I have called our Assembly again the 23^d Inst. but as I have already hinted I am not without fears that instead of granting Supplies they will scarcely refrain from muttering against the proceedings of the Troops under General Braddock who have not scrupled to carry off a good many Servants with them from this Province as well as Carriages & Horses I shall be under a necessity of recommending to the Assembly to provide for the Relief of such of the Inhabitants as have suffered thereby but as no more than two or three Counties thro which the Troops marched have been at all affected or injured I doubt the Assembly will not be influenced by the Representations or Petitions of a few to indemnify & give them Redress. I have thought proper to issue a proclamation cautioning the Back Inhabitants to be on their Guard & prepared to defend themselves & each other against the Hostilities they are threatened with & have also sent peremptory Orders to the Officers of the Militia to Muster & Dicipline the Men under their Command & be in Readiness to serve his Majesty & secure their own properties from the destroying hands of the French & their Savage Allies. but Alass for want of a Militia Act similar to those of New York or the Northern Govern^{ts} Little is to be expected from such Defenders or Protectors; & I am much afraid it will exceed both Governor Dinwiddies & my Abilities to prevail on any of them to stir toward Fort Du Quesne or even Cumberland tho the Assemblies should give us provisions & Stores to Escort

p. 131 thither. I am advised that 600 Men marched from Wills-Creek the 28th of May in Order to secure a passage over Georges Creek which flows into Potowmack about 12 Miles above Fort Cumberland I suppose they will throw a Bridge over it & raise some kind of Works for its Defence in Case the Enemy should Act offensively. General Braddock I suppose marched with the Rest of the Troops this morning, he had about 50 Indians with him & had reason to expect more would join him on his March. The Recruiting parties have much filled the Virginia & the other Companies since the General has been at the Camp. but I learn from the Northward that S^r W^m Pepperells Regiment is not more than half compleat, which has induced Governor Shirley to apply to the Gov^t of the Jersies for their 500 Men to be employed against Niagara under his