

Capt Polson money so readily & I hope you will not condemn my Conduct therein, tho his Extravagance should render him unable to give a Satisfactory Acco<sup>t</sup> of its Disposal. I observe by an Acco<sup>t</sup> that I received from him some time since that the Expence of raising his Men Victualing them till he reached Frederickton & their pay to the 23 of March amounts to £35. 13. 10 more than he had then received so that if the Men were regularly paid I hope he will not be much in Arrears. By our Act of Assembly Soldiers are to be victualed at 1<sup>s</sup> a Day each but I believe that Act was not made before Capt Polson reached the place of Rendezvous: when his Company came thither you may see in the inclosed Acco<sup>ts</sup> which the Inhabitants on whom they were quartered delivered me with a petition requesting payment but in that I am unable to gratify them the Money that was granted by our Assembly last Summer being all expended & I almost despair of finding them disposed to grant any more Supplies I am sorry to find Capt Rosse has not behaved so genteely as might have been wished & expected, & should have been glad he had dealt a little more ingenuously with me too when he requested me to speak in his favour to the General without undeceiving me with respect to his Rank & Half pay. The General however has given him a first Lieutenancy in Pepperels Regiment & I suppose he has eer this joined his Corps. I received a Lett<sup>r</sup> this morning from General Braddock dated the 17<sup>th</sup> Inst at the Little Meadows (between 20 & 30 Miles from Fort Cumberland) M<sup>r</sup> Shirley tells me they were got so far with much Difficulty & Distress but were preparing to go on with more speed by lessening the Number of waggons to those necessary for the Artillery & reducing the provision &c to such a quantity as may be carried on Horses. A Detachment of 1000 of the best Troops were to go forward to the great Crossing & the Rest were to follow more slowly with the remaining waggons & provisions. A Gent<sup>n</sup> arrived here this Day in less than 7 weeks from London informs me that his Majesty was gone to Germany & that he was about to leave England the ministry seemed to be in some hurry on Acco<sup>t</sup> of Intelligence that had been rec<sup>d</sup> of 22 Sail of Ships having sailed from France toward the western Coast of Ireland upon which Admirals Hawke & Boscawen sailed after them with 12 Ships. it was reported that the French had embarked a very considerable Number of Troops with a Design of making a Descent in that Kingdom—

Letter Bk. II.

p. 93

p. 94