

Points I presume they will soon be dismissed as heretofore in that case I shall not meet our People at all but if the Pensilvanians prepare such a Bill as the Governor can accept I shall immediately convene our Assembly in hopes that as they have heretofore been they will continue Imitators of the Quakers Conduct. Inclosed you have an Exact & proper Return of the Officers & Men that fell in the Action of the 9<sup>th</sup> of July of those that were wounded & of them that escaped unhurt. since that time some have died of their wounds at Fort Cumberland where the Hospital is still kept. It was as surprizing a Defeat I think as has been heard of, for 'tis supposed that the Indians that that Day opposed General Braddock were not less than 1500 or 2000 & yet none of the English that were engaged will say they saw a hundred & many of the Officers who were in the Heat of the Action the whole time will not assert that they saw one Enemy, it seems they had most advantageously posted themselves behind the large Trees that grew on the Eminences or Hills that were on the Right Flank & in the Front of our Troops, thence they fired irregularly on the English beneath them who being in a compact Body became a fair mark to their Enemies against whom they fired in platoons almost as fast as they could load, without doing as I conceive any great Execution. The men had not been used to nor had any Idea of this kind of fighting, which disperited them & soon threw them into Confusion they refused to obey the Voice of their Officers & having wasted all their Ammunition retired in great Disorder leaving the Enemy Masters of the Field & of all the Artillery Ammunition Baggage & every thing that had passed the River, it is supposed that 800 or 900 Stand of Arms have fallen into the Enemies hands & that what Colonel Dunbar by the General's Orders destroyed was worth at that place £100000 S<sup>s</sup> this Loss of all the Artillery except four 6 Lbers which Col<sup>o</sup> Dunbar has taken with him together with the Loss of so many Officers & the Disability of many that survive to enter again on Action as also the present Condition of the Troops who have been harrassed almost to death by the Laborious Campaign they have made has determined Col<sup>o</sup> Dunbar to retire from Fort Cumberland which Step I think the present Temper & Disposition of the Troops must incline any one who saw & conversed with them to approve I have not lately received any Lett<sup>r</sup> from the Northw<sup>d</sup> but the Gazetts inform us that the Troops in Nova Scotia have succeeded to their Wishes having dispossessed the French of all the Forts that they had built in that part of the Continent. I flatter myself with hopes that Colo Johnson will reduce Crown Point which is I hear but weakly garrisoned at this time but I confess I am not quite so sanguine in my Expectations con-

Letter Bk. I.

p. 147