

Letter Bk. II. one to the other to keep the Communication between the Inhabitants open & if Indian Parties venture to make Incursions to give the Alarm & dispose themselves in such a manner as to cut off their Retreat. The Expence hereof I shall be enabled

p. 126 to defray by the Subscription that has been made & out of the same Fund I shall support the Maryland Company that was with the General which is now at Fort Cumberland with the N Carolina & the Remains of the Virg^a Forces. I found by Col^o Dunbar & the other Officers that I visited at the Fort that there had been many unhappy Divisions in the Army that General Braddock commanded, Himself & the two Colonels were scarcely on speaking Terms & very few beside four or five Favourites mention him with Regret. It has been hinted to me that in case he had succeeded against the Fort the several Companies that have been raised in & that are supported by these Provinces would have been regimented & given to Lieut^t Col^o Burton of Dunbars, Capt Morris one of the Aid de Camps was to have been Lieut^t Col^o & Capt Dobson Major & Capt Orme the other Aid de Camp was to have succeeded Burton as Lieut^t Colonel in the Regiment that Dunbar commands. This it is said the General requested by Letters that were sent home before the Action but possibly the unhappy Turn that Affairs have now taken may prevent the Ministry's Compliance with the Request. Inclosed you have an Exact & Regimental Return of the Officers & Men that fell in the Action, of them that were wounded & those that escaped unhurt. Some few have since died of their wounds at Fort Cumberland where the Hospital yet remains. S^r I S^t Clair was shot thro the Body under the Right Pap but is in a fair way to recover & I expect him here in a fortnight or three weeks. It was I think as extraordinary a Defeat as ever was heard of, tis supposed that the Indians who that Day opposed

p. 127 General Braddock were not less than 1500 or 2000 yet none of the English that were engaged saw more than 100 & many of the Officers as well as Men who were the whole time of its Continuance in the Heat of the Action will not assert that they saw an Enemy. When the Detachment of 300 commanded by Lieut^t Col^o Gage was beyond the River about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a Mile they were fired on from an Eminence or small Hill which they were about to ascend, upon which they returned the Fire & halted till S^r I S^t Clair with the Detachment of 200 came up the General immediately hurried on the main Body to sustain them while the Enemy who consisted almost entirely of Indians (or French in Indian dress) extended themselves all along the Hill which was on the General's right Flank & posting themselves severally behind the large Trees that grew thereon fired in Security & did great Execution. The novelty of such Fight-