

ing struck our Troops with Amazement & Terror they found themselves destroyed by an invisible Enemy & were soon thrown into the greatest Confusion. some Companies that attempted to ascend the Hill were broke by the Fire of their Friends who confounded them with the Enemy. In this melancholly situation the Men were kept more than three Hours when having consumed all their Ammunition they retired in the greatest Disorder & left the Field & every thing thereon to the Enemy who did not attempt to pursue them beyond the River but immediately fell to Scalping those that were killed or unable to get off & then returned with the Artillery & Plunder to the French Fort. The General had unhappily all his Papers, His Majesty's Instructions & the Plan of Opperations that was concerted at Alexandria with him which fell into the Enemy's hands, & a Prisoner who is escaped thence asserts that the 2<sup>d</sup> Day after the Battle a great number of the Indians departed from the Fort with a Design as he supposes by their Rout to give Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley a meeting at Niagara. I think the General had with him 52 Carriages the Artillery & 18 Waggon Loads of Ammunition included, beside near 100 Beeves that had been driven up to him two Days before. As soon as he was brought back to Col<sup>o</sup> Dunbar's Camp he gave Orders for the Destruction of all the Ammunition & Artillery that Dunbar had with him except two 6 Lbrs & all the superfluous provision, in pursuance of these Orders near 150 Waggons were burnt, the Powder Casks staved in a spring the Cohorns broke or buried & the Shells bursted. the Provisions were scattered abroad on the Ground or the Barrels broke & thrown into the water. soon after this was executed the General dying was buried privately in the Road & Col Dunbar immediately retreated to Fort Cumberland where he staid 9 or 10 Days & then marched for Phil<sup>a</sup> there I suppose he will expect Letters & Instructions from Gov<sup>r</sup> Shirley how to dispose of himself till he can receive farther Directions from home for his Conduct. Upon the Receipt of this news Gov<sup>r</sup> Dinwiddie has again convened his Assembly, that of Pens<sup>a</sup> is also sitting & have given the Gov<sup>r</sup> Room to expect £50000 will be now granted by them for his Majestys Service, if they prepare such a Bill as the Gov<sup>r</sup> can accept I will also call our People together on the same Occasion, but if the Quakers still persevere in their Obstinacy, I shall not put the Country to the Expence for I am convinced that if the Pensilvanians set an ill one our Assembly will follow their Example. I have not received any Lett<sup>rs</sup> from the Northw<sup>d</sup> but according to the Gazettes Col<sup>o</sup> Johnson should e'er this be before Crown Point & I flatter myself with hopes that he will not find great Difficulty in reducing it, the Forces in Nova

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