

Letter Bk. I. ceeding towards Wills-Creek principally with a view of Encouraging the distant Inhabitants to remain on their Plantations which the Terror of the Indian's Incursions & the alarming News of the General's ill Success inclined them to relinquish & desert. those that I met flying from the Frontiers I prevailed on to return back & by ordering some small Forts to be built at proper Distances from each other in the Western Part of Frederick County whereunto the People may resort in case of Alarms, I hope I have made & left them pretty well satisfied & contented. Each of those Forts I have garrisoned with a few men who have my Orders to patroll from one to the other & keep the Communication free & open. These Men I am enabled to support by a subscription that has been made

p. 149 by the Gentlemen of this & some of the other Counties & from the same Fund I subsist the Maryland Company commanded by Capt Dagworthy that marched with the General but which is now left with the Virg^a & N Carolina Troops at Fort Cumberland under the Command of Governor Innes. Col^o Dunbar with the Remains of the two Regiments & the 3 Independant Companies is on his march to Phil^a where I suppose he will receive some Lett^{rs} from General Shirley & Instructions for the Disposition of the Troops. The Loss of the greatest part of the Artillery Ammunition & Camp Equipage which cannot be replaced but from Europe the Death of the General & Loss of all his Papers & Instructions together with the want of Officers for the Regiments & the weakness & Terror of the Men that survive have determined Colonel Dunbar against attempting any thing till he can receive Instructions & Directions for his Conduct, indeed I beleive 'twould be impossible to prevail on the Troops at present to advance towards the Enemy or their Fort, was the Colonel supplied with every thing necessary for pursuing the General's plan. I see by the Pensil^a Gazette that Governor Morris has convened the Assembly of that Province on this unhappy turn of our Affairs & that by their Address they give him room to expect £50000 for his Majesty's Service but I am told that they propose to raise the money by a Land Tax to which all the Proprietarys Mannours & even unappropriated unsettled & uncultivated Lands are to be subjected if such be their Views I presume the Issue of their present Meeting will be pretty similar to that of their last but if they prepare such a Bill as will be agreeable to the Governor I shall also meet our Assembly on the same Occasion in hopes that they may notwithstanding their late Resolves be persuaded to wave the Points they have contended for & imitate the Quakers Example. Inclosed your Ldp has a Regimental Return of the Officers & private Men that were killed or wounded in

p. 150 the Battle of the Monongahela, a particular Account of what