

Letter Bk. I. scarcely enough for any Service that would require Ten Days in the Execution, however he seem'd to entertain hopes of being able to enter on Action before this time in Case the Supplies of Provisions that were hourly expected did not fail him Coll. Dunbar with the two Regiments & three Independent Companies are ordered to Albany where General Shirley proposes they shall take up their Winter Quarters & be in readiness to act seperately or in Conjunction with the Troops now at Oswego or such Provincials as the Colonies shall think fit to raise & march against the French early in the Spring. The General desires me to prevail on our Assembly to send Commissioners to N York the 15th of Novem^r next &

p. 160 to empower them (as he hopes the Assemblies of the neighbouring Colonies will theirs) to consult with him on the most proper measures to be taken for the general Interest & our common Cause & stipulate for the further necessary Supplies that each province shall furnish before the ensuing Spring but this I imagine is absolutely impracticable in our present Circumstances however I shall consult with his Ldp's Council thereon & take their Advice whether I shall meet our Assembly before I receive his Ldp's farther Instructions for my Conduct. Gov^r Dinwiddie informs me that finding no Assistance was to be expected from Maryland or Pensil^a he has given over all thoughts of constructing a Place of Defence on the Western Side of the Mountains this Winter, but his Officers are Levying Men to compleat Col^o Washingtons Regiment which is to be diciplined during the Winter & rendered fit for Action early in the Spring. We learn that many Families who lived on Pattison's Creek have been lately killed, carried away, or burnt in their Houses by a Party of Indians who infest that part of Virg^a & have I hear murthered & taken Captive three or four of our Inhabitants within a few Miles of Fort Cumberland. The Garrison at that place consists of about 150 effective Men who since the Departure of Coll Innes to Carolina are I expect under the Command of Capt Dagworthy who is the eldest Officer. I was in hopes of being favoured with a Lett^r by Montgomery but as he has been now arrived in Virginia almost a Month without sending me any I conclude he has not charged himself therewith. Be kind enough to send the inclosed to B^r In & beleive me to be with the greatest Regard

S^r Y^r mo oblig^d humb Serv^t