

Letter Bk. I. superiour on the Lake he will not be able to act offensively this Season. Since I left the Frontiers an Accident has happened in Pens<sup>a</sup> which has a good deal alarmed the Inhabitants; You may remember that last Sept<sup>r</sup> & Oct<sup>r</sup> several Forts were ordered to be constructed on the Frontiers of that Province & that a considerable Number of Men were voted by the Assembly to garrison them & protect the Inhabitants, one of these Forts called Fort Granville was built on Juniata about 20 Miles West of the Susquehanna River & has been generally garrisoned with a Company of 70 Men, during the time of Harvest large Detachments it seems have been always out to cover the People while they were employed in securing their Grain & at the time when the Fort was attacked there was but a Subaltern & 25 private Men therein. The party of French & Indians who attacked it found means to set the Fort on fire & in attempting to extinguish it the Subaltern & some Men were killed whereupon the Rest surrendered Prisoners at Discretion; the Enemy having utterly destroyed the Fort erected a French Flag & were marching off with the Prisoners towards the Ohio when one of them made his Escape, & by him we have the preceeding Account, I cannot learn what Number of the Enemy there was but we are told that a French Letter was left near the place where the Fort stood. As I apprehended that the French would e'er long teach their Indian Allies to approach & set fire to our Stoccado or Wooden Forts I thought proper

p. 222 to build Fort Frederick of Stone, which Step I beleive even our Assembly will now approve of tho I hear some of them sometime since intimated to their Constituents that a Stoccado would have been sufficient & that to build a Fort with Stone would put the Country to a great & unnecessary Expence, but whatever their Sentiments may be with respect to that matter I am convinced that I have done for the best & that my Conduct therein will be approved of by any Soldier & by every impartial person. The Fort is not finished but the Garrison are well covered & will with a little Assistance compleat it at their leisure. Our Barracks are made for the Reception & Accomodation of 200 Men but on Occasion there will be room for twice that number it is situated on the North Mountain near Potowmack River about 14 Miles beyond Conegochiegh & four on this Side Licking Creek, I have made a purchase in the Governor's Name for the use of the Country of 150 Acres of Land that is contiguous to it which will be of great Service to the Garrison & as well as the Fort be found of great use in case of future Expeditions to the Westward for it is so situated that Potowmack will be always navigable thence almost to Fort Cumberland, the Flatts or Shallows of that River lying between Fort Frederick & Conegochiegh. It is