

Letter Bk. I. stance. We have thought proper to recommit him for another Examination next week & in the mean time the Attorney General who is gone to Baltimore Court will endeavour to learn where some Parties that the Prisoner has named & where the Priest particularly might be found for as he has no certain Abiding place, but resides sometimes in this Province & sometimes in Pens^a it might not perhaps be easy to apprehend him. Since Johnson has been remanded to Prison I have received
 p. 242 another Lett^r from Colo Steven dated at Fort Cumberland the 25th of Oct^r wherein he tells me that on the 19th of that Month a Party from that Garrison discovered near the Fort & took Prisoner an Irish Papist that had deserted thence to the Enemy about 3 Weeks before & was now come back as a Guide to a party that was advancing towards our Settlements. The Enemy it seems were somewhat suspicious of him & as they came by Fort Cumberland insisted on his performing some notable Exploit in or about that place to convince them of his fidelity, & promised on his giving them that Satisfaction to confide in him as they had heretofore in Johnson who they said was a faithfull Fellow & one that had never disappointed nor deceived them. This Declaration the Deserter made just before he was hanged & Colo. Steven immediately advised me thereof, lest Johnson should impose on me as he had done on him & thereupon obtain his Liberty. I am in hopes that the Fate of these two Spies will save Fort Cumberland this Winter & deter others from approaching so near, but unless we pursue other Measures next year than we have lately in these Colonies I think we can expect nothing less than that the Enemy will make themselves Masters of that Place.

The last Advices that we received from the Northward were that the French Army at Crown Point is much superiour to that which Lord Loudoun commands on Lake George & that His Ldp was intrenching himself under the Fort that S^r W^m Johnson built last Summer on the Brink of the Lake. His Lordship has we hear writ to Governor Denny & demanded of the Pens^a
 p. 243 Assembly a large Sum of Money for His Majesty's Service & also required them to build Barracks at Phil^a for the Reception & Accommodation of a Battalion of the Royal American Regiment, It is said that the Assembly are by no means pleased with this manner of writing however they thought proper to comply with His Ldp's Requisition concerning the Barracks, what Resolution they are likely to come to on the other part of His Ldp's Letter we do not yet hear but I am afraid they will scarcely answer the Earl of Loudoun's Expectations. For my own Part I am convinced that neither the Assembly of that nor this Province have any thing so much at heart as the Increase of their own Power & Importance & as