

Letter Bk. I. rather remained near Monongahela about 60 Miles on this Side the small Fort which had been surrendered expecting the Arrival of the Forces from Carolina & New York, by which Reinforcement they hoped to be able to make the French relinquish their late Conquest, while Affairs were in this Situation in the Beginning of June, Intelligence being brought M^r Washington that a Party of about 30 Men from the french Camp were coming to intercept some Provisions that were bringing from Virginia for his use, He ordered out a Detachment, who fell in with the French & after a few Blows made near the whole Party Prisoners who are still in Virginia. But soon was this small Advantage repayed by a heavy Misfortune for on the 3rd of July M^r Washington being in the Situation above mentioned was alarmed with the News of 900 French Troops being on their March to attack him which before Eleven o Clock he found too true, when he was really surrounded by such a number as he had learnt were on their march having not any fortification or Entrenchment to protect his Men, he was after near 100 of his men had been either killed or disabled, obliged to accept Terms the same Evening, which were not very honourable as y^r Ldp will observe by a Copy of the Capitulation herewith inclosed. The News of this

p. 59 Defeat soon reached Gov^r Dinwiddies Ears & immediately thereupon He renewed his Sollicitations for our assistance without which he could not again look the Enemy in the face before Winter, which would be of fatal Consequence, as it was unlikely that their Assembly would proceed to raise any more forces unless we would shew a Disposition to support them in the Enterprize. By this I was induced to meet our Assembly the 16th Inst. & prevailed with them so far as to send up a Bill for supporting the Virginians with £6000: at my assenting to which I hope y^r Ldp will not be displeas'd, nor that I have issued Comm^{ns} yesterday for raising a Company or two of Men in y^r Ldp's Govern^t by which we hope the Virginians will be reinforced enough to take the Field again before Winter. Y^r Ldp's several Instructions that I had the honour lately to receive it shall be my study to fulfill & immediately on the Receipt of them I delivered according to y^r Ldps Order y^r gracious Answers to the Addresses of both Houses of Assembly transmitted to y^r Ldp soon after my Arrival.

I am &c.