

Letter Bk. IV Enemys having thought proper very soon after the Reduction of Niagara to abandon & destroy all the Forts which they had till that time held on the Southern Shore of Lake Erie & on the Head Branches of the Ohio River; It is with pleasure I now inform Your Ldp that this Step of the Enemy's has had a very good Effect on the Ohio Indians in our favour, so that none of them have since presumed to annoy our Troops under the Command of Brig^r Stanwix, or to commit any Act of Hostility whatever, & I do not doubt but in a few Months the Westernmost Parts of this & the neighbouring Provinces will be as well settled if nothing extraordinary happens to prevent it as they were before the Beginning of the War. At the time that I gave Your Ldp an Account of the Enemy's having abandoned Crown Point I was in hopes that we should before this time have heard of General Amhersts having pursued them to Montreal but it seems they had so many & such warlike Vessels on Lake Champlain that it was not prudent to attempt a Passage in such Boats as transported his Army over Lake George & Vessels of Force could not be built & launch't till near the Middle of this Month, however I hope it is not yet too late for him to proceed especially as M^r Wolfe's continuing before Quebec will keep Mons^r Vaudreuil in Awe & prevent his sending any large Reinforcement to the Troops which are already posted at the North End of Champlain Lake to oppose General Amherst's Progress. We have an Account from Phila^a of General Gages having gone from Oswego down the River S^t Lawrence with a considerable Body of Soldiers & a Number of Indians under the Direction of S^t William Johnson to attack a Post & Settlement of the Enemy's called La Galette or Oswegatchie & to lay waste that part of

p. 54 Canada of General Wolfe's Operations before their Capital I presume regular & frequent Accounts are transmitted from his Camp directly to England & that your Ldp will know what hath been or is likely to be the Event of that Expedition as soon as or perhaps earlier than Advice thereof can be brought to these Southern Colonies, however lest that should not be the Case I take the Liberty to inclose Your Ldp the latest Articles of News that we have received from that Quarter, by which it appears I think that His Majesty's Forces under M^r Wolfe's Command have not been idle this Summer, tho I am afraid their Number will prove insufficient for the Service for which they were destined. The Officers who lately commanded the Maryland Troops entertaining hopes that it will be in M^r Secretary Pitt's Power & Inclination to appropriate to their Use Part of the Money which was granted last year by Parliament to repay the Colonies part of the Sums which they had severally granted & advanced for the Kings