

Doct^r Steuart the Contents of Your Ldp's last Letter & would Letter Bk. I.
have persuaded them to pay the Arrears that are become due
since they made the last Remittance but they seem determined
to decline it hoping that your Ldp will be prevailed on by the
Representation that they will now make to supersede your p. 298
former order. I profess that it gives me a good Deal of concern
to find myself unable to comply with Your Ldp's Instruction
in favour of M^r Wogan but as the Judges of the Land Office
gave no Bond to pay that £100 p Ann they cannot be compelled
to do so & if they were to be removed for their failure I cannot
mention two Gentⁿ in the Province that would solicit their post
if they knew the Conditions on which it was to be obtained.
Indeed I am sensible from what I feel myself that the annual
Amount of Fees to the Land Office has been much reduced since
the Inhabitants have been deterred from making Surveys on the
Frontiers. I have been told that the Tob^o which has been paid
the Chancellor in one Year for signing Patents for Land that
has been taken up in Frederick County has been worth near a
hundred Pounds & I can assure your Ldp that all the Fees which
I receive in a year as Chancellor do not amount to the Sum that
I am ordered to pay annually to M^r Calvert. Now as the Fee for
affixing the Seal to a Patent is trifling when compared with
what the Patentee must pay for its passing thro the Land Office
the Income of that office must have been reduced in proportion
with mine & I am convinced that the Profitts which remain to
the Judges after the Clerks & other office Expences (which are
very great) are paid cannot be very considerable however I submit
this matter entirely to Your Ldp & if You shall be pleased to
issue any new order thereupon I shall use my Endeavours to
carry them into Execution. We have not as yet received any
certain Advice of Admiral Holborne's Arrival at Hallifax but
we cannot help flattering ourselves that he has joined the Fleet
under the Command of S^r Cha^s Hardy before this time. p. 299
By several Persons who were made Prisoners but have lately
made their Escape from the Enemy we are told that the French
propose to make an Attempt on Fort Cumberland before the End
of the Campaign. One Street a Soldier that was taken at the
Reduction of Fort Granville last year is one of them that has
lately escaped from the Enemy & he being examined on Oath
declares that in May last the Garrison of Fort Du Quesne
consisted of about 300 French & some Indians but that before
he came off a Reinforcement of 200 had come up the Ohio &
brought with them a considerable Quantity of Provisions in
12 large Boats, that when he left Fort Du Quesne 700 Soldiers
had been some time expected down the River & that by what
he had heard during his Stay there an Expedition was