

Letter Bk. I. sent to acquaint the Commanding Officer that he could not make any Attempt to raise the Siege or to assist him, till he should be reinforced by the Militia of the Neighbouring Colonies & recommended it to him to make the best Terms he could in Case the Delays of the Militia should put it out of his Power to bring or afford him any Relief. The Messenger that was sent with this Letter fell into the Enemy's hands however as they did not think the Contents were such as would encourage the Garrison to make an Obstinate Defence it was sent to Col^o. Munroe together with a Flag of Truce by order of the French General. The Garrison continued to make a vigorous Defence four Days after this Letter was received but as they then despaired of being relieved, & had almost expended their Ammunition, the Commandant thought fit to surrender the Fort on the Conditions mentioned in the inclosed Paper. You will observe that by the Terms of Capitulation the Officers & Soldiers were to be permitted to carry off their Baggage & the Sick & wounded that were not in a Condition to be transported to Fort Edward were to be taken proper Care of by the French Surgeons & returned as soon as they should be recovered, but notwithstanding this Engagement the Indians were suffered to scalp all the Sick & wounded before our people marched out of the Fort & to plunder both the Officers & Men many of whom they carried into the woods & stripped quite naked as I am informed by a young Gentⁿ a Lieut^t who was so unfortunate as to be treated after that manner. As soon as our Troops had evacuated the Fort the Enemy utterly destroyed it & then returned by water to Ticonderoga & Crown Point. What was the Reason that M^r. Montcalm declined to attack Fort Edward we know not, Some are inclined to think that he was afraid Quebec would be attacked in his Absence others that he was apprehensive of being opposed by a vast Army of Militia but that he will return again & reduce that place also so soon as the Militia shall leave the Frontiers. We are told in the Phil^a Gazette that there is a French Squadron of 16 Line of Battle Ships carrying 1112 Guns & several Frigates at this time in the Harbour of Louisburg & that there is a large Number of Troops in Garrison at that place. It is also rumoured that the Earl of Loudoun has given over all thoughts of an Expedition this Season & is about to return to N York, but I hope the Report is without foundation. From the Professions that some of the Shawanese & Delawares made at a Treaty that Gover^r Denny lately held with them it was supposed by many people that the Frontier Inhabitants would have nothing more to fear from those Indians, but a great Number of People have been since cut off in Pensilvania & I am convinced that