

their Arms, by which 62 of their Officers, who fought bravely with the Americans, are killed or wounded. Amongst the Killed, it is said, is General Braddock and Sir Peter Halkett, and that General Braddock had four Horses killed under him before he fell. Had the private Men of the above Regiments done their Duty, the Victory would have been on our Side. The Particulars of the Action, and the Killed and Wounded, is expected by the next Packet, which it is hoped will be more favourable.

HALIFAX, September 27.

On Monday last arrived here the Jolly Bacchus (a Tender belonging to the Fleet), from Lunenburg, with the Inhabitants of a small French Settlement a little above that Place; they brought with them all except two, who we hear are fled to the Indians for Succour and Assistance.

Wednesday last arrived here the Hon. Rear Admiral Holbourne, in his Majesty's Ship Edinburgh, also his Majesty's Ships Centurion, Austria, and Norwich, from their Cruise off the Harbour of Louisburg: On their Passage they met with three French Men of War, who had made their Escape from Louisburg, to whom they gave Chace for some Time, but theirs being clean Ships, and ours considerably foul, they soon lost Sight of them. Yesterday arrived his Majesty's Ship the Dunkirk, who had been upon the Cruise with Admiral Holbourne.

BOSTON, October 13.

Last Week the several Carpenters who went from hence to Oswego returned here, having, as we understand, completed the Building of the several armed Vessels, designed for the Security of the Lake Ontario, in about 23 Days from the Cutting of the Trees. By Letters brought by them, and an Express from Albany, we learn, that General Shirley's Spies had got back to the Army, and report, that the Fort at Niagara was in a ruinous Condition, and defended but by about 100 Frenchmen, and 60 Indians, that near Frontenack on Cataracty River, they discover'd 31 Tents, from whence it is concluded, that the Troops at that important Pass are not very numerous. That our Army was in Health, and the Indians with them quite uneasy for Action. That Governor Shirley had just received the joyful News of the Victory General Johnson had obtained over the French near Lake George, which had put his whole Army in high Spirits; and as it may be reasonably expected, that the main Force of Canada will be now turned that Way, he is determined, as we hear, to attempt both Frontenack and Niagara this Season, and we impatiently wait the Event. We also learn that all the Warriors of the Six Nations have resolved to join our Army at Lake George, and act with Vigour against the Enemy. That Governor Hardy was extremely active at Albany in expediting the Waggon and Horses, with Provisions and Necessaries, for our brave Forces. And as the chief of our Recruits must have joined the Army, we expect soon to hear they are advancing to Crown-Point.

By a Letter from Halifax, dated the first Instant, we learn, that Admiral Boscawen, considering that the Season of the Year was so far advanced as it was not proper to continue such a Number of his Majesty's Ships in those Seas, had ordered them all into the Harbour of Halifax, except two, which were left on the Cruise, and by the Advice of a Council of War, determined to sail in a Fortnight with the largest Ships for England, leaving a Squadron under the Command of Capt. Spry, for the Protection of that and the neighbouring Colonies. Among the Vessels that were taken during their Cruise off Louisburg, 16 of them were laden with Provisions.

We also learn by another Letter, that on board the Vessels that were taken by Capt. Rous, there were 1370 Barrels of Flour, 1170 Firkins of Butter, 750 Barrels of Pork and Beef, 1200 Casks of Brandy and Wine, besides Cases of Cordials, &c.

We hear, that some of our Men who were lately sent out as Scouts from the Camp near Lake George, had been as far as within Sight of the Fort at Crown-Point, and keeping themselves undiscoversed to make what Observations they could, saw a Number of French and Indians, supposed to be 500, at work upon an Entrenchment at a small Distance from the Fort, and that upon their Return, in the Road through which the French retreated, they saw a Number of dead Bodies and Guns scattered about. And that likewise at Ticonderoga, they discovered a Number, which they supposed to be 3 or 400, building a Blockade.

We are also informed that the Mohawks had returned, and were upon their March to join General Johnson, in a very great Body, dress'd and painted in a warlike Manner, with all the Tokens of Resentment at the Death of Hendrick their Chief, and others their Friends, in the late Engagement.

We learn by a Letter from Halifax, that the Prizes taken at Newfoundland, and sent in there by Capt. Rous (as mentioned in our List) were condemn'd at a Court of Admiralty, agreeable to an Act made at Utrecht, prohibiting the French making Fish in that Part of North America.

By a Vessel from Halifax we hear, that the Captains Rous and Shirley had failed from thence, as was supposed, for St. John's, in the Bay of Fundy; that the French were repairing the Fort on that River, which they deserted in the Summer, upon the Approach of Capt. Rous, the English having neglected to secure it. That a considerable Body of French Regulars were arriv'd there; and great Numbers of Neutrals and Indians had joined them.

Some Persons just come to Town from the Westward, acquaint us, that they left several Companies of the New-Hampshire Regiment, commanded by Col. Blanchard, on the Road, returning to Piscataqua, with the Laurels they had reap'd in the Action near Lake George. But we have no particular Account as yet, of what has occasioned their Departure from the Army, and hope it may turn out to be only

such a Furlow as was allowed the brave Mohawks after the late Action.

October 20. Several private Letters brought by Capt. Partridge to Gentlemen in Town, inform, that Admiral Hawke had taken five French Men of War, and that one of his own Ships was lost (some say blown up) in the Engagement: And some Gentlemen who came Passengers inform, that while they lay at Cowes, an Express came in from the Admiral, confirming that Advice. They also tell us, that near twenty French Merchantmen had been brought in, before they left Cowes.

We hear Capt. Partridge has brought 600 and a half Barrels of Powder, and a Number of Small Arms, for the Use of this Province.

A Letter from a Gentleman in London to his Friend in Boston, dated August 20, 1755.

"The French are augmenting their Troops with 50,000 Men, who are to be completed by February next, and ordering all their Men of War to be fitted for Sea. But notwithstanding all these Preparations, it is believed by the knowing Ones, that they will decline a Proclamation of War against us till next Spring, unless we declare against them before; for as we are infinitely superior to them at Sea, they can do nothing to prejudice us in Asia, Africa, America, and on the Coasts and Seas of Europe; and the Season is too far advanced for them to assemble an Army, and enter far into the Netherlands (which are now very much exposed) before they will be obliged to go into Winter Quarters. If a Thunder Clap had broke upon the Palace at Versailles, it could not have surpris'd the Court more; than hearing of the Attack of their Men of War; for they were seduced by the Policy of our Ministry into a perfect Confidence that we should not attack them this Year in America, or at least not at Sea, therefore they were unprepared for the Advices they have received from America. This was what our Court aimed at, for neither we nor our Allies, were in a Situation to defend the Netherlands and Holland this Summer; so we confin'd the War to America, well knowing that before they could hear of a Blow being struck there, it would be too late for them to do much Mischief in Flanders this Year. And in the Interim, by his Majesty's going to Hanover, we could by his Activity, Abilities and Influence, so arrange and point the Interests and Abilities of our Allies, that we should be a Match for them on the Continent of Europe, when the Spring approach'd. Accordingly his Majesty has secur'd 16,000 Hanoverians, 12,000 Saxons, 8000 Bavarians, 8000 Hessians, 6000 Saxe Gothians, and 30,000 Austrians, to enter the Netherlands now, if the French dare set their Feet in that Country this Year; and a Passage for the Austrians, through all Neutral Countries, is already demanded, as the French are assembling 20,000 Men about Dunkirk, and filling all the Frontier Towns towards Flanders with numerous Garrisons. His Majesty has also secur'd 50,000 Russians, to enter the Netherlands next Spring, who are to come by Water from Petersburg. Nothing is to be depended on from the Dutch, who on former like Occasions have sent 60,000 Men into the Field. Indeed they are to pay one Third of the Expence of most of the above foreign Troops, and it is to be feared this is as much as they will do. We have 12,000 Men of the British and Irish Regiments, who hold themselves in Readiness, and are mostly about London, for Flanders; and in the Spring we are to send 10,000 of our Troops. These 150,000 Troops of the Allies, with 100,000 additional Austrians, and 30,000 Piedmontese, are to form three Armies, one of which is to act on the Side of Flanders, another on the Side of Alsace, and the other on the Side of Provence. His Majesty has accomplished this Work so much sooner than was expected, that he will be at home next Week, and most People think we shall proclaim War soon after, or as soon as the Parliament meets, which will be by the Middle of October; though it was the firm Resolution of our Ministry, to avert a War in Europe till next Spring, if possible, before this Success of his Majesty's. Spain has given our Court the most solemn Assurances, since the Advice of Boscawen's Attack reach'd Madrid, of her remaining Neutral; consequently we expect Naples and Parma will do the same. As to the King of Prussia, we flatter ourselves he will at least be Neutral, by the Influence of the Prince of Wales's Marriage with his Family, and other Overtures that are now making him; but if he engages against the Allies, Russia has 250,000 Troops on Foot, to keep Denmark and Sweden to a Neutrality, and to give the King of Prussia a powerful Diversion in his own Dominions. Your Successes in America give great Satisfaction to every Briton here. From the present Administration you will want neither Protection nor Support.

Lieutenant Governor Lawrence is made Chief Governor of Nova-Scotia, with a Salary of 1000l. per Annum; and you may depend that those who distinguish themselves in his Majesty's American Service will be rewarded. I conclude, wishing Success to your American Expeditions.

Sir, Yours, &c."

P. S. It is generally supposed Admiral Hawke is gone to intercept Nine French Men of War that are coming from Cadiz to Brest. Admiral Smith is going for the King, and then he departs for Jamaica with 7 Men of War. Admirals Byng and Townsend are going to Mahon with 12 Line of Battle Ships and 5 Frigates. Commodore Frankland is gone to Antigua with four Men of War, and three more are going after with the Trade. A Report prevail'd at Portsmouth the 15th Instant, that 7 French Men of War are taken, and it gain'd credit; but no Letters from thence mention the Place where taken.

We learn by Capt. Homer, who arriv'd here on Thursday last, in 5 Days from Halifax, that Admiral Boscawen was to sail from thence for England, with all the capital Ships of War, in about 7 Weeks from the Time he left that Place.

NEW-YORK, October 20.

Since our last, we have had many different Reports concerning our Army now encamp'd at Lake George; some People imagine, the Season is too far advanced, for our Men to proceed; whilst others on the contrary affirm, that if our People are properly provided against the Inclemency of the Weather, they may attack with much greater Facility, than in the Summer Season; as well from our Enemy Indians being less serviceable to the French in their skulking Parties; as the Difficulty the Canadians must be put to, in supplying a Body of Men at Crown-Point with Provisions, as they are to be transported the greatest Part of the Way by Water, and perhaps too at a Time when all Navigation in

that Part of the World, is entirely stop'd. On the other Hand, our Forces can be supplied with great Ease.

Col. Dunbar and his Forces are to join Mr. Johnston.

PHILADELPHIA, October 23. Extract of a Letter from Reading, in Berks County, dated October 20.

"We bear this Day that six People are scalp'd near George Gabriel's Mill, on the other Side of Susquehanna, about 82 Miles from this Town. It is told us by a credible Person who came from the Neighbourhood, and we expect to have a Confirmation of the unhappy News soon."

October 30. Tuesday last Capt. Lyon arriv'd here from London. He left Plymouth the 15th of September, and says, that that Day his Majesty was expected to arrive in England from Hanover: That on the 23d of August Orders for making Reprisals on the French were publickly read on board all the Ships of Admiral Hawke's Fleet, in the Bay of Biscay: And that accordingly a great Number of their Vessels have been taken by our Men of War, and carried into Plymouth, Portsmouth, &c. where they will be properly looked after.

Extract of a Letter from Virginia, dated October 24.

"About a Week ago the Militia of Dumfries, Prince William, and Fairfax Counties were draughted, and on Tuesday Evening march'd (to the Number of 160) out of Winchester towards the South Branch of Potomack, where the late Murders were committed. At the same Time 200 of the Virginia Regiment (Recruits) set out from the same Place, who were followed the next Day by Colonel Washington: And 110 Recruits were, from James's River, cross'd the Ridge on Wednesday 3, so that in about a Fortnight we shall have (with 130 now at White's Creek) about 500 Men fit for Duty at Fort Cumberland, exclusive of the Militia and scattered Parties, in the Pay of this Colony. Our Back Inhabitants have left their Settlements in great Numbers, under all the Miseries of Cold and Poverty, added to the Misfortune of being without any Hope of Reimbursement."

Extract of a Letter from Lancaster County, dated October 23, 1755.

"As I imagine you have been alarmed before this Time, with a great deal of bad News from these Parts, I think it my Duty to give you as much Light into the Affair as I can. About the 20th Instant, News was brought, that the French and Indians had actually massacr'd and scalp'd a Number of our Inhabitants, not more than 40 Miles from Harris's Ferry. It is reasonable to think the Receipt of such News must put the Inhabitants in the utmost Confusion. About 25 of the best of them got themselves mounted and in Readiness the next Day, to go and bury the Dead; they reach'd the Place accordingly, and found no less than 14 Bodies most shockingly-mangled. Whilst they were in this Place, some friendly Indians who were flying to the Inhabitants for Protection, told them there were a large Body of French and Indians actually on their March to this Side the Allegany Mountains; upon this they concluded to go as far as Shamokin, to know whether the Indians offer'd them were Friends or Enemies (for our People suspected these Indians to have some Knowledge of the Murder) and to get, if possible, further Intelligence about these they had heard were advancing towards them. The Indians at Shamokin treated them with Civility, but had several Councils and a good deal of Whispering among themselves, which made our Men suspicious of them, especially as some of them were missing soon after. However in the Morning (for they said with them in the Night, not thinking it safe to sleep in the Woods) Andrew Montour, and Delaware George, advis'd them to avoid going a particular Road, in which they said there was Danger; but our Men suspecting their Sincerity, went their own Way, which was the very one they were cautioned to avoid, and were fired on by a Party of Indians, about 40 in Number, some of whom they believed were with them Part of the Night before. Our Men returned the Fire in the best Manner they could, but one of them came off, when the Engagement first began, and it was fear'd was the only one that could escape alive out of the whole. This News soon spread all over our Country, and we were in the utmost Confusion, till Yesterday. Afternoon we were told there were fifteen more of our Men return'd: They all agree that it was Delaware Indians that did this Mischief. Our Court-house Bell has been ringing almost ever since, to call the Inhabitants to some Consultation for their Safety. We bear there are above One Hundred Men already gone up to Harris's Ferry, out of Demerol, and Places adjacent."

Extract of a Letter from Harris's Ferry, on Susquehanna, dated October 27.

"Out of near 50 who went up from hence to bury the Persons killed near Gabriel's Mill, only 23 are as yet return'd. It is supposed John Harris is dead. There is an Account come here, that one Powell, who was in the Action, return'd to Shamokin, and soon after a young Indian Runner came there, and said, that the French and their Indians, to the Number of 1500, were very near. How true that Account may be I will not undertake to say; but sure I am, if there is not some speedy Measures taken by Men of Weight, that we shall be utterly ruin'd. There are gone up to Hunter's Mill, above Harris's, upwards of 500 Men, but they are in want of Ammunition. It is said the French and Indians were seen marching into Shamokin."

By another Letter from Harris's Ferry, we learn, that on Saturday last, about Ten in the Morning, as our People were returning from Shamokin, they were fir'd upon unawares in the Forging of Mahony, or John Penn's Creek, near to Gabriel's Mill, and finding the Indians posted on both Sides the Creek they retreated to Susquehanna, in passing of which 'tis said some were drown'd. That there were at Shamokin about forty Indians, mostly painted black (which 'tis said denotes Anger) who treated our People with a good deal of Neglect the Night they said there; and it is believ'd some of them slip'd off in the Night to waylay our Party. Andrew Montour told them they were in Danger, and said, that 17 Days from last Saturday 1500 French and Indians left Fort Du Quesne to burn Carlisle, and other Parts of this Province, and some to Virginia."

We have a Number of other Letters confirming the above melancholy Accounts; but as they are all to the same Purpose, think it needless to insert them. The Women and Children in the Back Parts of Cumberland, Lancaster and Berks Counties, are all come, or coming down, to the Townships that are thick settled, and some of them are come to this City. In short, the Distress and Confusion our People in general are in on the Frontiers is inexpressible.

Within these few Days several additional Quantities of Arms and Ammunition were sent to the Frontiers, and the Inhabitants of the Back Parts are all alarm'd, and are fled to the Towns, and some to this City. We hear the Cannon given Tuesday last from Plymouth, who taken and sent to Land in when it was on Shore.

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