

June 20<sup>th</sup> 1755 - Copy of the 26<sup>th</sup> Letter to W. Cortest  
transmitted by Capt Sutton 133

Sir I enclosed you have a copy of my last p<sup>r</sup> here with you receive. Duplicates of the Laws that were passed last Session. Your Favour dated the 7<sup>th</sup> of April. I have received & will present W. Gordon with his L<sup>ds</sup> Math. of Favour to Morrow; with W. Tashers will. I consult concerning Mr. Hides Affairs & write to you thereon next Wednesday. Our Assembly met last Monday as I before gave you reason to expect. Yesterday Morning they presented the Upper House with a Bill for £5000; but as the Ordinary of Pedlars Licences are thereby appropriated as they were by the Bill which was rejected last Session; it must consequently meet with the same Fate. Copies of my Speech & both Houses Addresses by way of Answer you have by this Opportunity & also in the Gazette. You will see an Address which has been since presented me together with my Answer thereto. The Reason why I seem to have restrained them to a pretty small Sum both in my Speech & Message was that I knew if they voted a larger the Ordinary Licences &c would be inserted in & be appropriated by the Bill that should be brought in to raise the Money; about £3000 is at this time in the Loan Office unappropriated, that Money I want to see them apply but I believe it will be vain to wish it so. This Morning I received Letters from the Camp dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> Inst. the General's Troops were at that time about 20 Miles from Fort Cumberland which they left the 10<sup>th</sup>. The many Hills & Vallies that they have been obliged to cross have rendered their March so far very tedious & disagreeable, but as they must yet have descended into a more level Country we shall expect to receive in 8 or 10 Days some Accounts from Fort Duquesne. The General's Advanced Guard had discovered a small Body of French & Indians at a Distance but it is not certain that there has been as yet any Skirmish. Monacatocha a brave Indian who attends the General was made Prisoner by a Party of the Enemy who I suppose surprized him as he was scouting abroad, but I hear that by some Accident he has made his Escape from them & is again returned to the Camp. In my last I hinted to you what I expected would happen as soon as the Troops should have passed the Mountains, this Morning I was unhappily confirmed in my Opinion by several Letters that I received from Col. James who