

on the Right Flank, & in the Front of our Troops, thence they fired
irregularly on the English beneath them who being in a compact Body
became a fair Mark to their Enemies against whom they fired in platoons
almost as fast as they could load, without doing as I conceive, any great
Execution. The Men had not been used to nor had any Idea of this
kind of fighting, which dispersed them & soon threw them into Confusion
they refused to obey the Voice of their Officers having wasted all their
Ammunition retired in great Disorder leaving the Enemy Masters of the
Field & of all the Artillery Ammunition & Baggage, every thing that had
passed the River, it is supposed that 600 or 700 Stand of Arms have fallen
into the Enemies hands & that what Colonel Dunbar by the Generals
Orders destroyed was worth at that Place £100,000. The Loss of all the
Artillery except four Calvs which Col. Dunbar has taken with him, toge-
ther with the Loss of so many Officers & the Disability of many that survive
to enter again on Action, as also the present Condition of the Troops
who have been harried almost to death by the laborious Campaign
they have made has determined Col. Dunbar to retire from Fort
Cumberland which Step I think the present Temper & Disposition of
the Troops must incline any one who sees & conversed with them to approve
I have not lately received any Lett^r from the Northw^d but the Gazettes
inform us that the Troops in Nova Scotia have succeeded to their wishes
having disposed of the Trench of all the Forts that they had built in that
part of the Continent. I flatter myself with hopes that Colo Johnson will
reduce Crown Point which is ^{to} hear is but weakly garrisoned at this time
but I confess I am not quite so sanguine in my Expectations concerning
General Shirleys Attempt, a Reinforcement we hear is gone to Niagara
from Fort Duquesne since General Braddocks Defeat & I am persuaded
they will leave nothing untied to interrupt him in his Operations & to
prevent his making himself Master of Ontario Lake, Admiral Boscawen
is still cruising off of Louisbourg & Nova Scotia but I have not