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of the Lake he can easily do whenever he pleases & if he should determine to take such a Step I am much afraid that Fort Edward will be found an easy Conquest. It appears by the Phila.<sup>a</sup> Gazette as Your Ldp will perceive that the French have a very strong Fleet at this time in the Harbour of Louisburg, it is also said that the Garrison of that place is very strong insomuch that the Earl of Loudoun dares not venture to attack it nay some private Letters have been received this Day from Phila.<sup>a</sup> wherein it is said that His Ldp is actually about to return with most of the Regiments that are now at Halifax to N York. Affairs in this & the Neighbouring Colonies remain in the Situation that they have been in for some time: The Governor of Pensilv.<sup>a</sup> held a Treaty lately with a considerable Number of the Shawanese & Delawares & entertained hopes that those Indians were at length thoroughly reconciled & that they would desist from making Incursions & destroying the Frontier Inhabitants, but I see that several of the Peoples of Pens.<sup>a</sup> have been since cut off & I believe one might venture to pronounce that this Treaty will be observed no better than those which these Indians & the Pensilvianians have before made. I have not heard that any Mischief has been lately done in Virginia or this Province but I cannot help thinking that an Attempt will be yet made before the End of the Summer on Fort Cumberland or some other of our advanced Posts. We learn from Carlyle that the Germans desert daily from Col: Stanwix, it is not long since a Corporal & Seven Men went off together as it was supposed to the Enemy & we are now informed that another party consisting of a Musician a Drummer & nine private Men all Germans has followed their Example: in Virginia the Assembly made an Act this Summer for impressing Men to compleat the Regiment that is reported