

also 150 Men from N Carolina on their way to Fort Cumberland,
they landed at Alexandria about three weeks ago & were to have come
hither but I understand that they were marched thence to Winchester
a few days before their Commanding Officer received his Prout. I
hear that the General is just come to Carlisle & that the Highland
Battalion with the Artillery was daily expected there, which encoura:
ges me to hope that the Army will be on the Allegany Mountains
before the middle of next Month. It is supposed that the Number
of the Enemy at this time in & about Fort Du Quene does not exceed
500 Men, most of whom are some Parties that have been lately within
sight of that Fort. We go over the Ohio every Morning to work on
a Fort which the French are building about half a Mile beyond that
River. I have now communicated to You all that has come to my
Knowledge relative to the Progress of the Expedition which General
Forbes is charged with, of the other two that are carrying on in Ame:
rica I know nothing but what the Gazette Writers tell us, & their ac:
counts You have in the inclosed Paper. Since I came hither I have
received Your Letter dated the 7th of March acknowledging Your Recit:
of mine of the 16th of Decem^r. last. I am glad the Steps I have taken to
defend the Province in the best manner I can with Militia are approved
of, It likewise gives me great pleasure to learn that You & my Brother
William were with His L^{ds} Approbation to wait on the Earl of Halifax
to acquaint him with the true State of Affairs in this Province & with the
Reasons why no Supplies have been granted here at this time for His Ma:
jesty's Service. You desire to know how much the People of this
Province ought to grant annually towards carrying on the War in America
which the British Nation is engaged in on Account of these Colonies.
The Assembly You know raised the Sum of £20000 for this purpose