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myself; wherefore my account shall commence in January 1754
at which time the Assembly of Virg.^a were prevailed on to grant
£10000 towards defending their Frontiers against the
Enemy who had lately invaded them. at the same time I
thought it my Duty to convene the Assembly of this Province
to solicit their Assistance & Aid for the Virginians who at that
time talked of proceeding immediately to Action: I might have
my first Attempt & I was necessitated to prorogue them without
obtaining even a small Sum for a present to the Indians unless
on such Terms as His S^{ts} Instructions particularly forbid me
to ~~accept~~ accept. April 10th Govern^r Dinwiddie writ me to
that in Obedience to his Directions a Company consisting of
about 100 Men commanded by one Capt. Trent was at that
time employed at the Forts of Monongahela in providing
Materials & building a Fort; that a Detachment of 150 Men
were marched from Alexandria under Lieut. Col. Washington
toward the Fort about to be erected & that the Residue of the Virg.^a
Troops amounting to near the same Number commanded by
Col. Fry would follow them the next week; that he expected
in a very few Days the Independant Company round from So
Carolina & in a short time there two that were ordered to Virg.^a
from New York, near the End of the same month I received
a Letter from Col. Washington dated at Mills-Creek the 22th
informing me that he was then at that place with a Detachment
of 150 Men & that he expected Col. Fry who was to have the
Chief Command would there join him with an equal Force in
a few Days, the same Letter also advised me that near 100
French commanded by one Capt. Contrecoeur had fallen down
from Senago (an Indian trading Town about 21 miles S^E
of Lake Erie & near the Head of the Ohio) on the 17th Inst^l
had summoned Ensign Ward, Capt. Trent being from his
post to surrender the small Fort that was building at the