

29
Governors Shirley, Delancey & Morris came hither ^{of this Day} ^{on} ^{the} ^{29th} ^{of} ^{April} - I accompanied them to the General at Alexandria whence having agreed on the plan inclosed, we returned to Annapolis Thursday & those several Gent^{rs} are now on their way to their respective Govern^{ts}. General Braddock departs from Alexandria to Day & I have promised to be with him next Tuesday Evening at Fredenickton which is 80 miles west of this place, there I shall tarry with him till the first of May when all the Troops will be in Motion & when he will proceed to Little Creek & thence towards the Ohio. I apprehend the General (dissatisfied that no such fund is already established) will solicit the Ministry to obtain an Act of Parliament whereby the several Colonies may be compelled to contribute towards a general Fund or Stock their several Quotas in case such an Act should be moved for I cannot help wishing it might provide & ordain that the Quota imposed on each Province be proportionable to the Number of their Inhabitants respectively, & perhaps it might be left to the Assembly's Option in what manner to raise that Quota, but then to prevent useless Disputes & Controversies may not the several Govern^{rs} & Councils be empowered to levy the Quota of Money by a ~~tax~~ ^{poll} Tax in case the several Branches of each Legislative cannot concur about ways & means within a certain limited time, I should be very much obliged to you for intimating to me what Step you think will be taken as to this Affair in case there be a prospect of a Rupture between the two Crowns which we are apt to think is not improbable, that you will send me early Intelligence thereof or of any other Occurrences the Knowledge of which may be useful to me.

You will observe in the Minutes of the Council which the General ^{held} called at Alexandria that it was agreed that in case of the Reduction of Fort Duquesne whatever Garrison the