

To those necessary for the Artillery & reducing the provisions
to such a quantity as may be carried on Horow. A Detachment
of 1000 of the best Troops were to go forward to the great Cropping
& the Rest were to follow more slowly with the remaining bag-
gones & provisions. A Gentleman arrived here this Day in left that
7 weeks from London informs me that his Majesty was gone to
Germany & that he was about to leave England the Ministry seem
to be in some hurry on Acc^t of Intelligence that had been rec^d
of 22 Sail of Ships having sailed from France toward the western
Coast of Ireland upon which Admirals Hawke & Boscawen sailed
after them with 12 Ships. it was reported that the French had
embarked a very considerable Number of Troops with a Design
of making a Descent in that Kingdom.

The 7
20 June 1755

St Tho. Robinson

R^t Honble

Lest the General should have embraced no Occasion himself
I take this Opportunity of acquainting you that General Praddock
& the Troops under his Command left Fort Cumberland or with-
-Creek the 10th Inst. the last Letters that I have had the honour
to receive from him were dated the 22 when he had with a good
Deal of Difficulty on Account of the Mountainous Country
that occurred advanced westward from Fort Cumberland about
40 Miles. A flying Party of the French had surprized & taken
Prisoner an Indian lately called the half King who attended the
General's Camp & is esteemed a very bold & hottest fellow, but on
the Approach of the General's advanced Guard who discovered
them they let him escape & retired towards their Fort. The 23
of this Month a Party of Indians fell upon four Families of our
distant Settlers, of whom they killed three & carried 8 away
Captives. Letters from Winchester in Virg. of the same Date
advise me that another Party of French Indians did the