

leave Nothing untrod to bring about what each of us so earnestly
 desire, I have so much at heart. I must observe to your Excellency
 that we are but very badly provided either with Arms or Ammuni-
 tion in these Provinces & that all together we shall be unable to
 compose a tolerable Train of Artillery which I doubt not your
 Excellency will think absolutely necessary for us to be provided
 with. As your Excellency knows very considerable contingent
 Expenses will unavoidably attend the Execution of any part of
 your Excellency's Plan for the Reduction of Fort Daquesne
 for which I am sensible the Colonies will never provide People
 entirely unacquainted with military Affairs being apt to think
 that every thing beyond cloathing paying & victualing the Troops
 is Excess. I hope I shall be excused for desiring some other
 Cash that what the Assemblies may grant or a Lett^r of credit
 for as much as you shall judge requisite for defraying such
 contingent Charges as the Colonies that shall put Troops under
 my Command will not take upon themselves. As I must also
 request the favour of your Excellency to appoint some Engineer
 on this Service I should be glad Mr Gordon were ordered to the
 Southward as he is a Gentle^{man} with whom I have heretofore had
 some Acquaintance & is now at Phila. When I receive or
 Lett^r from you Dinwiddie to whom I have sent an Express with
 your Packet or as soon as our Assembly come to any Resolution
 to be depended on I will not fail to send your Excellency
 Intelligence & shall be much obliged to you for the favour of an
 answer as soon as possible or as shall be convenient, in the mean time

8th of March 1756. -- To the M^o Honble Henry Fox Esq^r Sec^y of State
 Right Honble -

I embrace this first Opportunity of acknowledging the Receipt
 of a Lett^r you was pleased to honour me with in Nov. & to express
 the pleasure I receive from being directed to address my Lett^r
 to you as one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.