

marched out of the Fort & to plunder both the Officers & Men many of whom they stripped entirely naked, as I am informed, by a Young Gent^l that was so unfortunate, as to be treated, after that manner. he also tells me, that the Army under the Command of General Montcalm, consisted of near 12000 Men among whom were six Regiments of Regular Troops from Europe, 2500 Indians, the Rest were Canadians & they brought with them 20 Pieces of Cannon, & 12 Mortars. During the Siege, two 32 Lbs, two 10 Lbs, one 12 Lb & 6 Lb, & two Mortars burst in the Fort, so that at the time it surrendered, there remained fit for Service no more than one 12 Lb one 9 Lb two 4 Lbs, & one Howitzer & not above 8 Pounds of Ammunition. The Enemy came from Ticonderoga in about 300 Boats & as soon as they had destroyed the Fort they returned the same way. What Number of Men they lost on this Expedition we know not but it is said that our Loss was pretty considerable. It is rumoured, that Sr L. Loudoun finds himself unable to make an Attempt on Louisburg & that he is returning with several of the Regiments to New York. I hope the Report is without Foundation, but there is an Article in the Gazette about the French Fleet that makes me fear it is too true - with the greatest Regard -

To William Sharpe Esq. 18 Sept. 1757.

D^r B^r
All the News that we have received from the Northward since I writ to you the 8th Inst is that Admiral Holborne with the Fleet under his Command is returned to Halifax, the French having notwithstanding their Superiority declined coming out of the Harbour of Louisburg to give him Battle & that M^r Dupeau Col^l Commandant of the 2^d Battalion of the Royal American Regiment died a few Days since on his March from York to join Col^l Stanwix who continues encamped near Carlisle. As the Money that our Assembly granted last Year for the Support of the