

of Venango are much alarmed at no Provisions being sent this Year as usual from
Niagara. As I shall find myself obliged to remain here the greatest part of
the Summer to encourage or compel the Militia (that I have contrary to the Advice
of our lower House of Assembly ordered out for the Protection of the Frontier In-
habitants) to do their Duty You will be pleased to send any Letters that You may think
proper to favour me with during that time to Winchester whence if they are directed
to the care of the Commanding Officer at Fort Loudoun they will find a speedy
Convoiance. I should be much obliged to You for having the inclosed Letters put on board the
next Ship that goes for England from Your Government.
To Mr John McClair the 8 July 1758. at Fort Frederick.

Your Letter of the 6th Inst being in Governor Sharps Absence delivered to me I took
the Liberty to open it & do myself the honour to inform You that as soon as His Ex-
cellency received Your Letter of the 23rd of June which did not reach him before the 26th
he sent an Officer with a Party of Militia to the Mouth of Conegocheague to collect all the
Canoes that could be got down the River that they may be ready to be loaded with the
Stores which Capt Joclyne was conveying hither from Carlyle. The Stores arrived the next
Day but the Canoes could not be collected brought hither & loaded till the 1st Inst; they
were however sent off very early on the 2^d by Captain Liut & Ensign with 21 Men of
the Maryland Troops & Lieut: Pray with 24 Men of Capt Joclyne's Detachment
being ordered to convey them as far up Potowmack as the Canoe Men can carry them. In
the Governors Letter of the 20th of June he told You that all the Maryland Troops
were on this Side Fort Cumberland were at that time employed in building a Bridge
over Licking Creek they finished it the 1st Inst & those of them that were not sent off
with the Canoes being as many as the Governour could then furnish with Tools have been
at work ever since on the Road between that Bridge & this Place. On the 3rd Inst Major
Wells arrived here with two Companies of the Delaware Troops & 24 Waggon's loaded with
Ball & some Tools they encamped & all of them stayed here the next Day. Very early on
the 5th the Remainder of Capt Joclyne's Detachment & One hundred of the Best Men
of the two Delaware Companies marched over Licking Creek to open a Road from the
Bridge to Sidling Hill. The Governour went & staid with them till the Afternoon when
the Major Wells & Capt Shelby escorted by a Party of Militia which went from this Fort
& a few of Major Wells's Men left Capt Joclyne & proceeded towards the Town Creek.
His Excellency being willing to review the Road himself which Capt Shelby had laid out.