

likewise censured for having ordered the whole to retreat immediately after they had ^{the} the first Attack were repulsed, but above all he is condemned for having brought his Army back to this Side of the Lake when he was much superior to the Enemy & when he might have as well remained entrenched himself on the other Side & thereby at least kept the Enemy in awe & have prevented their sending any Detachments to the Ohio which it is expected they have now done. What the General can offer in his Vindication I cannot tell: but I suppose You will soon hear as One of his Aid de Camps has taken his Passage for England in a Packett that sailed from N York a few Days after the Action. You cannot easily conceive how the Loss of the Earl of Loudoun is now regretted in America, as well in these Southern Colonies as to the Northward, indeed Nothing has seem'd to go on rightly with Us since His Lordship was superseded, the plan which he had laid for an early Expedition ag^t Fort Du Quene was at once overset by the Troops which he had quartered for that purpose in Maryland & Pens^{il}. last Winter being ordered to the Northward as soon as General Abercromby assumed the Chief Command, beside You must know that His Ldp began to be regarded among Us as a Vice Roy & to have great Influence in all the Colonies which I am apt to think his Successors will never have. The Inactivity as it has been call'd of the last Campaign was indeed censured for a While, but after the People had heard Affairs represented in their true light they were perfectly reconciled to His Ldp's Conduct & were universally of Opinion that the Event of this Campaign had he continued at the Head of His Majesty's Forces in America would have been equal to their wishes, at least that His Ldp would have used his utmost Endeavours to make it answer their Expectations. I had before heard & since I have seen Brigadier Forbes I have the greatest Reason to believe that General Abercromby & he have been on very ill Terms ever since the Earl of Loudoun left them, who has been to blame for this I cannot tell as I have only had an opportunity of hearing one of them speak of the Affair & he too at a time when his Indisposition & several Disappointments which he had met with had rendered him much dissatisfied with his situation & prospect.

To Genera^l Forbes. F. I. the 4th Sept. 1750.

This will be presented by Mr Cary the Person that sergaged to go down the Country & get the Blankets that Your Excellency desired me to