

that had the Command of about a hundred Invalids whom the Virginia-  
ians had left in the Hospital, most of whom were now pretty well  
recovered. While I was at Fort Cumberland two of my Officers were kil-  
led by an unlucky accident which I cannot well account for but it was  
surprising more of us did not perish by it as You will judge. I believe  
if You read in the inclosed Gazette the Paragraph that follows the  
Account of the Action that happened near Fort Duquesne the 14 of Sept.  
last which seem to be the most particular Account that we have received  
of that unhappy Affair. The Gent<sup>rs</sup> of the Council having advised me to  
give the Assembly an Opportunity of continuing a favourite Act for the  
Inspection of Tobacco which was about to expire I was obliged to return  
home from the Frontiers before the 23 of last Month ever since which  
time our Assembly has been sitting but from their Behaviour I am in-  
clined to think that I shall have as little Reason to be satisfied with  
their Proceedings this Session as I have had to be pleased with their  
past Conduct. Since the Opening of the Session I have received a  
Letter from the General wherein he is pleased to tell me it is in his Opi-  
nion necessary & reasonable that this Province should support 600 Men  
during the Approaching Winter to assist the other Provincials in garrisoning  
the Advanced Post atoyal Channing in Case we should be unable to re-  
duce Fort Duquesne & the several Forts that have been built on the  
Frontiers. that the Regulars or at least some of them may come down  
the Country to recruit & to equip themselves more conveniently for an early  
Campaign next Spring. he is still I find in an ill State of Health  
but he tells me that he was determined to march from Pass Town  
with the Rest of the Army the 23 of Oct. By other Letters which  
have been received from Pass Town we are informed that on the 12<sup>th</sup>  
of that Month a Body of about 2000 French & Indians attacked our  
Advanced Post thro' several times but were as often repulsed, it was  
at first said that they had lost four or five hundred Men but from the