

To Mr. Pitt. Annapolis the 20th of Nov: 1758.

Sir I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letter dated the 18th of Sept: whereby You were pleased to advise me of His Majesty's having thought fit to appoint Major General Amherst Commander in Chief of all his Forces in North America, & were also pleased to direct me to correspond with His Excellency & to obey such Orders as he may at any time think proper to send me which I shall carefully do. According to the last Accounts that have been received here from the Westward General Forbes reached the Post at Loyalhannon the 2^d Inst, & was then in a pretty good State of Health. On the 13th a Detachment of a thousand Men marched thence to open a Road towards Fort Duquesne, & as many more followed them the 15th. The 16th Inst Part of the Artillery moved on escorted by Col: Montgomerie with about 700 Men & the General was to march the next Day with about a thousand more which exclusive of 600 that were to remain at Loyalhannon were all the Men that were then with him. I am informed that one Johnson who had been some time among the French & was coming out with a Party of them to take away or kill some more of the General's Horses was taken Prisoner the 12th of this Inst Month as were two of the Enemy's Indians on the 14th, & that if their Intelligence is to be depended on the Commanding Officer at Fort Duquesne did upon the Return of the Detachment that attacked & defeated some of our Troops near the Camp at Loyalhannon the 12th of Oct: send off a considerable Part of his Garrison & many of their Indians imagining that General Forbes would not be able to proceed any farther this Campaign for want of the Horses which that Detachment killed or carried off with them & which it is said were more than 200 a Number that by all Accounts he could indeed but very