

27th of May, fallen in with a Detachment of about 30 Men from the French Fort, on the Ohio, under the Command of Ensign Jumonville, upon which a skirmish ensued, and Jumonville with 7 or 8 of his Detachment, was killed, and the rest, 22, (excepting 2 or 3) made prisoners and sent to the Governor of Virginia." The first week in June, Col Fry, fell from his horse which occasioned his death, and thereupon Col. Washington succeeded in the chief command.

The 9th of July a Letter was sent me by Col. Innes, informing me that he had just reached Winchester, in Virginia, at the head of the N. Carolina Troops, consisting of 150 men, but that they were, for want of a magazine, in N. Carolina, unarmed, and that he had also found himself disappointed in his Expectations of having some arms sent him from Williamsburg to Winchester. On this representation and at his earnest request, I sent immediately to Winchester 150 stand of arms for the use of the Companies under his command. About the middle of July, we received the news of Col. Washington's defeat on the 8th inst., by about 700 (as it now appears) of the French Troops that were sent out (as soon as an account of Jumonville's misfortune reached the French fort) under the command of Capt. Villier and another commissioned officer, to attack the English troops wherever they could find them. Some accounts of this unhappy engagement and the dishonorable capitulation that was the consequence of it; you have long since seen.

I believe Washington and the officers under his command, when they received intelligence of the enemy's approach some days before the battle, would have taken very different measures from what they did, if there had been no pique or disagreement concerning rank between the Virginia officers and those of the independent companies commanded by Capt. Mackoy. On being informed of the enemy's near approach, they retired to a little useless kind of intrenchment in a *valey* between two eminences where the independent company posted themselves in the ditch, the Virginians being drawn up in order within. The French came in sight about noon and immediately took possession of one of the eminences where every soldier found a large tree for his shelter from the fire of the English, and placing himself behind it, fired away on the troops beneath as fast as he could load, this continued some time and more than thirty of the English fell thereby, but toward evening Capt. Villier, who commanded the French, finding that the fire on the part of the French diminished and less frequent, began to suspect that their ammunition was near spent (for they had only a handfull of ball each and powder in proportion; distributed to them when they were sent from the fort) ordered a parley to be beat, not induced thereto, as was asserted, by the great loss his men had suffered, for on their side only one cadet and two private soldiers had been killed, but their officer being apprehensive as I observed on account of his ammunition, of vituals being also inconsiderable and finding the troops that he