

into the stores that the men were building; we proceeded down Potowmack about 200 miles, and then by land to Williamsburg, in expectation of meeting the general by that time arrived. Being disappointed in such expectations I was obliged to make the best of my way to Annapolis, (reviewing and discharging many of the Virg'a recruits in my way,) where I had appointed the Assembly to meet the 22d of March, and once more repeated my requisitions for further supplies, the old obstacle has again prevented my succeeding, and after sitting and disputing a month about his Ldp's prerogative, they have given me evident demonstrations that they never will grant a shilling without the compulsion of an act of Parliament, unless the ordinary lycences be appropriated, contrary to his Ldp's positive instructions and injunctions; they now stand prorogued to July, but the General will have the several Governors of the Carolinas, Virg'a, Maryland and Pens'a meet their respective Assemblies again next month, in which I shall imitate the other gent'n, tho' I entertain not the least hopes of succeeding. As soon as I was released by the Assemblys pro-gation, I waited on the General at Alexandria, where the two regiments from Ireland were disembarked, and encamped the 3d of this inst. April, the General, Commodore Kepple, Governor Dinwiddie and the General's Aid-de-Camp and Secretary came to Annapolis, where Governor Sherley had promised to meet them to settle the plan of operations for the summer, but he not arriving at the time appointed, the General and compauy returned again to Alexandria the Monday following, and ordered the troops to march westward, Colo. Halkett's regiment and the train thro' Virg'a toward Wills Creek, and Colo. Dunbar's on this side Potomack River to the same place. The 11 and 12 inst. Governors Sherley, Delancey and Morris came hither, and this day sennight I accompanied them to the General at Alexandria, whence having agreed on the plan enclosed, we returned to Annapolis Thursday, and those several gent'n are now on their way to their respective gov't.

General Braddock departs from Alexandria to-day, and I have promised to be with him next Thursday evening at Frederickton, which is 80 miles west of this place, there I shall tarry with him till the first of May, when all the troops will be in motion and when he will proceed to Wills Creek, and thence towards the Ohio. I apprehend the General (dissatisfied that no such fund is already established,) will solicit the Ministry to obtain an act of Parliament, whereby the several Colonies may be compelled to contribute toward a general fund or stock their several quota's in case such an act should be moved for. I cannot help wishing it might provide and ordain that the quota imposed on each Province be proportionable to the number of their inhabitants respectively, and perhaps it might be left to the Assembly's option in what manner to raise that quota, but then to prevent useless disputes and controversies, may not the several Governors and Councils be empowered to levy the quota by a Ppoll tax, in case the several