

business to Annapolis, could I have received them in time from
Beazy's father who, thro' mistake, has got them. I wrote for them
immediately on coming down and Colonel Beazy wrote me in return
that I should have them as soon as he received them from Afoguin-
in, where they were with his son's baggage, however, as the time for
which I have leave of absence is nearly out I must hasten back, tho'
with the prospect of returning immediately, when I hope I shall get
the papers and wait on the Council with them.

The occurrences which we experienced before the 9th
Instant. from the date of my last to you, I make no doubt you have
been well informed of. The principal one I need only mention to you,
which was the battle at the White Plains - In this affair, as in too
many more of a similar nature, our Generals shew'd not equal judg-
ment to that of the Enemy. We were badly disposed to receive the attack
of the Enemy's small arms, and unfortunately much exposed to their
Artillery, which flank'd us so heavily as to render the post tenable
but a short time - The matter was ended by a Confused and precipi-
-tate retreat on our part with the loss of 90 men killed and wounded
including in the number 4 Officers, Capt^s Scott and Bracco-kil-
-ed - Lieut^s Walters and Goldsmiths wounded. of the above
number 46 of our Regiment - - I forgot to say, that Colonel Small-
-wood was wounded slightly -

" Since the engagement of the White Plains, you hear we have
been unfortunate enough to lose Fort Washington, a capital stroke agai-
-nst us in my opinion, as we shall soon find it very difficult to keep
up a communication between the Northern and Southern Provinces: had
we been able to hold the fort, during the winter we certainly should have been
able to stop the river in such a manner as to be impassable to shipping in
the Spring. We could also have built other forts on the Jersey side of the river
which would considerably aid and assist the forts we already have, but alas!
we must no longer think of holds and fortresses on the North River."

There are, I hear, various opinions respecting the taking of
Washington, some think it was too easily surrendered, others say our men
behaved well and that it could not possibly be help'd - I have not been where
I wou'd hear any thing respecting the order of our men at that place the
only intelligence I have is in a letter from an Officer of our camp - he tells
me that the greatest part of our men engaged the Enemy one mile at least
from the fort, at the stockade or rear line (described in my last to you) that
while they were engaged there a considerable body of the Enemy passed over
the Spite devil or Harlaem Creek and by a quick movement possess'd
themselves of all the passes, between our men at the Lines and the fort, the
consequence was that they surrender'd immediately - there was I make
no doubt other movements of the Enemy, to the Northward of the fort to per-