

MARTLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices foreign and domestic.

THURSDAY, March 28, 1754.

The Conclusion of Major WASHINGTON's Journal, begun in our last.

Wednesday, December 12th, 1753.

I PREPAR'D early to wait upon the Commander, and was received and conducted to him by the second Officer in Command; I acquainted him with my Business, and offer'd my Commission and Letter, both of which he desired me to keep 'till the Arrival of Monsieur Riparti, Captain at the next Fort, who was sent for and expected every Hour.

This Commander is a Knight of the military Order of St. Lewis, and named *Legardeur de St. Pierre*. He is an elderly Gentleman, and has much the Air of a Soldier; he was sent over to take the Command, immediately upon the Death of the late General, and arrived here about seven Days before me.

At 2 o'Clock the Gentleman that was sent for arrived, when I offer'd the Letter, &c. again; which they receiv'd, and adjourn'd into a private Apartment for the Captain to translate, who understood a little *English*; after he had done it, the Commander desired I would walk in, and bring my Interpreter to peruse and correct it, which I did.

13th. The chief Officers retired, to hold a Council of War, which gave me an Opportunity of taking the Dimensions of the Fort, and making what Observations I could.

It is situated on the South, or West Fork of French Creek, near the Water, and is almost surrounded by the Creek, and a small Branch of it which forms a Kind of an Island; four Houses compose the Sides; the Bastions are made of Piles driven into the Ground, and about 12 Feet above, and sharp at Top, with Port-Holes cut for Cannon and Loop Holes for the small Arms to fire through; there are eight 6 lb. Pieces mounted, two in each Bastion, and one Piece of four Pound before the Gate; in the Bastions are a Guard House, Chapel, Doctor's Lodging, and the Commander's private Store, round which are laid Flat-Forms for the Cannon and Men to stand on; There are several Barracks without the Fort, for the Soldiers Dwelling, covered, some with Bark, and some with Boards, and made chiefly of Logs; There are also several other Houses, such as Stables, Smith's Shop, &c.

I could get no certain Account of the Number of Men here; but according to the best Judgment I could form, there are an Hundred exclusive of Officers, of which there are many. I also gave Orders to the People that were with me, to take an exact Account of the Canoes that were haul'd up to convey their Forces down in the Spring, which they did, and told 50 of Birch-Bark, and 170 of Pine, besides many others that were block'd out, in Readiness to start.

14th. As the Snow increased very fast, and our Horses daily became weaker, I sent them off unladen, under the Care of *Barnaby Corrin* and two others, to make all convenient Dispatch to *Venango*, and there wait our Arrival if there was a Prospect of the Rivers freezing, if not, then to continue down to *Shanopsis's* Town, at the Forks of *Ohio*, and there to wait 'till we came to cross *Allegheny*, intending myself to go down by Water, as I had the Offer of a Canoe or Two.

As I found many Plots concerted to retard the *Indians* Business, and prevent their returning with me; I endeavour'd all that lay in my Power to frustrate their Schemes, and hurry them on to execute their intended Design; they accordingly press'd for Admittance this Evening, which at Length was granted them, privately, with the Commander and one or two other Officers: The Half-King told me, that he offer'd the Wampum to the Commander, who evaded taking it, and made many fair Promises of Love and Friendship; said he wanted to live in Peace, and trade amicably

with them, as a Proof of which he would send some Goods immediately down to the *Leggs* Town for them; but I rather think the Design of that is, to bring away all our struggling Traders they meet with, as I privately understood they intended to carry an Officer, &c. with them; and what rather confirms this Opinion, I was enquiring of the Commander, by what Authority he had made Prisoners of several of our *English* Subjects; he told me that the Country belong'd to them, that no *Englishman* had a Right to trade upon those Waters; and that he had Orders to make every Person Prisoner that attempted it on the *Ohio*, or the Waters of it.

I enquir'd of Capt. *Riparti* about the Boy that was carried by, as it was done while the Command devolved on him, between the Death of the late General, and the Arrival of the present; he acknowledged, that a Boy had been carried past, and that two *Indians* had two or three white *Mens* Souls, (I was told by some of the *Indians* at *Venango* Eight) but pretended to have forgot the Name of the Place that the Boy came from, and all the Particulars, though he question'd him for some Hours, as they were carrying him past: I likewise enquired what they had done with *Jeba Truster* and *Janus MacClucklan*, two *Pennsylvania* Traders, whom they had taken, with all their Goods: They told me, that they had been sent to *Canada*, but were now returned Home.

This Evening I received an Answer to his Honour the Governor's Letter from the Commandant.

15th. The Commandant ordered a plentiful Store of Liqueur, Provision, &c. to be put on board our Canoe, and appeared to be extremely complaisant, though he was exerting every Artifice that he could invent to set our own *Indians* at Variance with us, to prevent their going 'till after our Departure: Presents, Rewards, and every Thing that could be suggested by him or his Officers — I can't say that ever in my Life I suffer'd so much Anxiety as I did in this Affair; I saw that every Strategem that the most fruitful Brain could invent, was practis'd, to win the Half-King to their Interest, and that leaving Him here was giving them the Opportunity they aimed at. — I went to the Half-King, and press'd him in the strongest Terms to go: He told me the Commandant would not discharge him 'till the Morning. I then went to the Commandant, and desired him to do their Business, and complain'd of ill Treatment; for keeping them, as they were Part of my Company, was detaining me; which he promised not to do, but to forward my Journey as much as he could: He protest'd he did not keep them, but was ignorant of the Cause of their Stay; though I soon found it out: — He had promised them a Present of Guns, &c. if they would wait 'till the Morning.

As I was very much press'd, by the *Indians*, to wait this Day for them, I consented, on a Promise, That nothing should hinder them in the Morning.

16th. The *French* were not slack in their Inventions to keep the *Indians* this Day also; but as they were oblig'd, according to Promise, to give the Present, they then endeavour'd to try the Power of Liqueur, which I doubt not would have prevail'd at any other Time than this, but I urg'd and insisted with the King so closely upon his Word, that he refrained, and set off with us as he had engag'd.

We had a tedious and very fatiguing Passage down the Creek, several Times we had like to have been staved against Rocks, and many Times were oblig'd all Hands to get out and remain in the Water Half an Hour or more, gaiting over the Shoals; at one Place the Ice had lodged and made it impassable by Water; therefore we were oblig'd to carry our Canoe across a Neck of Land, a Quarter of a Mile over. We did not reach *Venango*, till the 22d, where we met with our Horses.

This Creek is extremely crooked, I dare say

the Distance between the Fort and *Venango* can't be less than 130 Miles, to follow the Meanders.

23d. When I got Things ready to set off, I sent for the Half-King, to know whether he intended to go with us, or by Water, he told me that *White-Thunder* had hurt himself much, and was sick and unable to walk, therefore he was oblig'd to carry him down in a Canoe: As I found he intended to stay here a Day or two, and know that Monsieur *Jacques* would employ every Scheme to set him against the *English* as he had before done; I told him I hoped he would guard against his Flattery, and let no fine Speeches influence him in their Favour: He desired I might not be concerned, for he knew the *French* too well, for any Thing to engage him in their Behalf; and though he could not go down with us, he would endeavour to meet at the Forks with *Joseph Campbell*, to deliver a Speech for me to carry to his Honour the Governor. He told me he would order the young Hunter to attend us, and get Provision, &c. if wanted.

Our Horses were now so weak and feeble, and the Baggage heavy, as we were oblig'd to provide all the Necessaries that the Journey would require; that we doubted much their performing it; therefore myself and others (except the Drivers which were oblig'd to ride) gave up our Horses for Packs, to stit along with the Baggage; I put myself in an *Indian* Dress, and continued with them three Days, till I found there was no Probability of their getting in, in any reasonable Time; the Horses grew less able to travel every Day; the Cold increased very fast, and the Roads were becoming much worse by a deep Snow, continually freezing; and as I was uneasy to get back, to make Report of my Proceedings to his Honour the Governor, I determin'd to prosecute my Journey the nearest Way through the Woods, on Foot.

Accordingly I left Mr. *Van Braam* in Charge of our Baggage, with Money and Directions, to provide Necessaries from Place to Place for themselves and Horses, and to make the most convenient Dispatch in.

I took my necessary Papers, pulled off my Cloaths, tied myself up in a Match Coat, and with my Pack at my Back with my Papers and Provision in it, and a Gun, set out with Mr. *Giff*, fitted in the same Manner, on Wednesday the 26th. The Day following, just after we had pass'd a Place called the *Murdering Town*, where we intended to quit the Path, and flee across the Country for *Shanopsis's* Town, we fell in with a Party of *French* *Indians*, who had lain in Wait for us; one of them fired at Mr. *Giff* or me, not 15 Steps, but fortunately missed. We took this Fellow into Custody, and kept him till about 9 o'Clock at Night, and then let him go, and walked all the remaining Part of the Night without making any Stop, that we might get the Start so far, as to be out of the Reach of their Pursuit the next Day, as we were well assur'd they would follow our Track as soon as it was light: The next Day we continued travelling till quite dark, and got to the River about 2 Miles above *Shanopsis's*; we expect'd to have found the River frozen; but it was not, only about 50 Yards from each Shore; the Ice I suppose had broke up above, for it was driving in vast Quantities.

There was no Way for getting over but on a Raft, which we set about, with but one poor Hatchet, and got finish'd just after Sun setting, after a whole Day's Work; we got it launched, and on board of it, and set off; but before we were half Way over, we were jammed in the Ice in such a Manner that we expect'd every Moment our Raft to sink, and ourselves to perish: I put out my setting Pole to try to stop the Raft, that the Ice might pass by, when the Rapidity of the Stream threw it with so much Violence against the Pole, that it jerk'd me out into 10 Feet Water, but I fortunately saved myself by catching hold of one of the

the Raft Logs; notwithstanding all our Efforts we could not get the Raft to either Shore, but were obliged, as we were near an Island, to quit our Raft and make to it.

The Cold was so extremely severe, that Mr. Gist had all his Fingers, and some of his Toes frozen, and the Water was shut up so hard, that we found no Difficulty in getting off the Island on the Ice in the Morning, and went to Mr. Frazier's. We met here with 20 Warriors, who were going to the Southward to War, but coming to a Place upon the Head of the great Cunnaway, where they found 7 People killed and scalped, all but one Woman with very light Hair, they turned about and ran back, for Fear the Inhabitants should rise and take them as the Authors of the Murder: They report that the People were lying about the House, and some of them much torn and eaten by Hogs: By the Marks that were left, they say they were French Indians of the Ottoway Nation, &c. that did it.

As we intended to take Horses here, and it required some Time to find them, I went up about 3 Miles to the Mouth of *Yaughaugbgane* to visit Queen *Alliquippa*, who had expressed great Concern that we passed her in going to the Fort. I made her a Present of a Match Coat and a Bottle of Rum, which latter was thought much the best Present of the two.

Tuesday the 1st Day of January, we left Mr. Frazier's House, and arrived at Mr. Gist's at *Monongahela* the 2d, where I bought Horse, Saddle, &c. The 6th we met 17 Horses loaded with Materials and Stores for a Fort at the Forks of *Ohio*, and the Day after some Families going out to settle: This Day we arrived at *Willis Creek*, after as fatiguing a Journey as it is possible to conceive, rendered so by excessive bad Weather: From the first Day of December to the 15th, there was but one Day but it rained or snowed incessantly; and throughout the whole Journey we met with nothing but one continued Series of cold wet Weather, which occasioned very uncomfortable Lodgings, especially after we had left our Tent, which was some Screen from the Inclemency of it.

On the 11th I got to *Belvoir* where I stopped one Day to take necessary Rest, and then set out, and arrived in *Williamsburg* the 16th, and waited upon his Honour the Governor with the Letter I had brought from the French Commandant, and to give an Account of the Proceedings of my Journey, which I beg Leave to do by offering the foregoing, as it contains the most remarkable Occurrences that happened to me.

I hope it will be sufficient to satisfy your Honour with my Proceedings; for that was my Aim in undertaking the Journey, and chief Study throughout the Prosecution of it.

With the Hope of doing it, I, with infinite Pleasure, subscribe myself,

Your Honour's most Obedient,
And very humble Servant,

G. WASHINGTON.
A Man of Honour

COPY of the Governor of Virginia's Letter to the Commandant of the French Forces on the OHIO.

S I R,

THE Lands upon the River Ohio, in the Western Part of the Colony of Virginia, are so notoriously known to be the Property of the Crown of Great Britain, that it is a Matter of equal Concern and Surprise to me, to hear that a Body of French Forces are erecting Fortresses, and making Settlements upon that River, within his Majesty's Dominions.

The many and repeated Complaints I have received of these Acts of Hostility, lay me under the Necessity of sending, in the Name of the King my Master, the Bearer hereof, George Washington, Esq; one of the Adjutants General of the Forces of this Dominion, to complain to you of the Encroachments thus made, and of the Injuries done to the Subjects of Great Britain, in open Violation of the Law of Nations, and the Treaties now subsisting between the two Crowns.

If these Facts are true, and you shall think fit to justify your Proceedings, I must desire you to acquaint me, by whose Authority and Instructions you have lately marched from Canada, with an armed Force, and invaded the King of Great Britain's Territories, in the Manner complained of; that according to the Purport and Resolution of your Answer, I may agreeably to the Commission I am honoured with, from the King my Master.

However, Sir, in Obedience to my Instructions, it becomes my Duty to require your peaceable Departure; and that you would forbear prosecuting a Purpose so interruptive of the Harmony and good Understanding,

which his Majesty is desirous to continue and cultivate with the most Christian King.

I persuade myself you will receive and entertain Major Washington with the Candour and Politeness natural to your Nation; and it will give me the greatest Satisfaction, if you return him with an Answer suitable to my Wishes for a very long and lasting Peace between us.

I have the Honour to subscribe myself,

S I R,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

ROBERT DINWIDDIE.

Williamsburg, in Virginia, }
October 31st, 1753.

[The Answer to this Letter, from the French Officer, the Reader has already had, in our Gazette No. 461.]

BOSTON, January 31.

AFTER a Spell of moderate Weather the Beginning of last Week, there suddenly came on very high and heavy Winds, first at about West, and then more Northerly, and extreme Cold, which lasted all Monday Night and the Day following; most of the fishing Boats of this Town, being out in the Bay, when the Weather alter'd, it was with great Difficulty that some of them got back into the Harbour. One of the said Boats ran upon *George's Island*, the Skipper whereof, named *Burt*, and another Man, named *Perryway*, were both froze to Death, the former has left a Widow and five Children. Two other Men belonging to the Boat, got into a House and saved their Lives; another of the said fishing Boats endeavouring to get in, and being within a little Distance from the Light House, had her Sails blown to Pieces, and was then driven before the Wind all Night, and the next Morning the Men found themselves in a Place called *Nobiscusset*, on *Cape Cod*, where they got safe ashore, and two of them came to Town by Land last Saturday Night. Also a Lighter from *Weymouth* loaded with Wood, meeting the Gale, came to an Anchor near the Castle; but by the Violence of the Wind, she was drove from her Anchor, and ran ashore near *Hangman's Island*, where she soon after sunk; the Skipper named *Nash*, and his Negro Man got on the Island into a small Hut, and sav'd their Lives, but continuing without Food or Fire till Wednesday Morning, when they were taken off, they were almost Spent; two young Men of this Town, the one named *Barnard*, the other *Loring*, with another belonging to *Weymouth*, perish'd in the Boat. Two of our fishing Boats that were seen in the Bay just before the Weather alter'd, having five Men in each, being yet missing, 'tis fear'd they are lost.

We hear that a Brig and a Schooner are ashore on *Cape Cod*, and that the Brig has lost three of her Hands.

We hear also from *Newbury*, that one Mr. Flood, was froze to Death.

A Vessel which arrived here last Friday from *Halifax*, brings an Account of an Insurrection which happen'd at *Lunenburg*, formerly called *Marlagash*, settled last Summer by a Number of English and Germans from *Halifax*; some of the Particulars of which Insurrection we have in the following Extracts of two Letters from a Gentleman that was on the Spot a few Days after it happen'd, to one in this Town, viz.

Lunenburg, January 2, 1754.

"The Monday after I left Boston, we put in here:—I was agreeably surpriz'd to find my Friend Col. Monckton here: A Tumult of the Germanic Body, occasion'd his visiting *Lunenburg* with a Party of 200 Men.—He stays here 'til he can trace the Riot to its Source:—He is now busy in taking Examination, committing those inform'd against, &c.—This Disturbance was created by a Letter feign'd to be receiv'd by one Peterkin here, from a Brother of his in London; in which Letter they say, was a particular Account of the generous Allowance of Parliament to the Germans, viz. All Materials to build with, Cloathing, Fishing Tackle, better Provisions, and Three Shillings a Day. The Contents of this suppos'd Letter were diffus'd thro' the whole: The Inhabitants, of course, if they gave Credit to it, would take some Means to enjoy those Advantages; the first Step they took was to demand a Sight of the Letter.—Peterkin could not produce it to them; then they tortur'd him to know what became of it; in his Tortures he swore he gave it to Mr. Zouberbuhler; and that he swore him to Secrecy to deny he had ever receiv'd such a Letter.

—They all flew to Arms the Seventeenth at Night;—Zouberbuhler got a Hint that they intended to Sacrifice him, and he fled to the Fort. They demanded him to be deliver'd to them, threaten'd to destroy the Forts and Storehouses, and put all the English to Death; they fir'd upon a Log House in which was a Corporal's Guard; the Corporal return'd it, and wounded two of them:—As the Troops in the Forts were an insignificant Number, compar'd with them, who were Five Hundred fighting Men, they could not venture to use any Force to suppress them. Capt. Sutherland sent one of his Officers at Night, to get aboard a little Vessel lying in the Harbour, she sail'd next Morning, and in a few Hours got to *Halifax*. Col. Lawrence with extraordinary Dispatch sent them Succours; for tho' Rogers, and Taggart were both unrigg'd and haul'd up, yet they were made ready, and brought Col. Monckton here, with two Hundred Men in four Days after the first Notice. The Germans swore they would not suffer a Man to Land. The Col. order'd the Masters of the Vessels, to have their Carriage Guns and Swivels in Order, and under cover of these he landed. The Germans very prudently declin'd Opposition. He has stripp'd them all of their Arms, and will leave a Part of those Troops he brought with him to protect them from the common Enemy. He has committed several of the Leaders, who he will take to *Halifax* with him. The whole, I fancy, will be unravel'd by and by:—Col. Monckton tells me, the French have retir'd from *Ohio*."

P. S. Lunenburg, 8th January, 1754.

The Colonel by dint of Perseverance has at last unravel'd this close laid Piece of Villainy:—Mr. Hoffman is discovered to be the Author of the incendiary Letter.—He is now Prisoner on board Capt. Taggart, who carries him to *Halifax*, in order to take his Trial before the Governor and Council.

Halifax, January 16 1754.

"This Day I arrived with Col. Monckton from *Lunenburg*. I gave you an Account in a former Letter of the late Insurrection at *Lunenburg*: The Col. has humbled their rebellious Spirits; he has traced the Scheme through all its Meanders to the Source of Mischief Mr. Hoffman, who is now closely confin'd in the Provost here: The Evidences which Col. Monckton has this Day brought with him, and his own Letter to Mr. Webb, are sufficient to convict him, if the Law admits of it.—During my Stay at *Lunenburg*, I reconitred the Country adjacent as far as *Le Have* and *Mahone Bay*. This last Place is on the East Side of *Marlagash*, and *Le Have* on the Western Side: There is almost a Communication with *Lunenburg* and *Le Have* by Water: The Distance over Land is not quite a Mile. *Mahone Bay* is perhaps one of the richest and most curious Places in *North-America*: There are in it One hundred and eighty Islands; which are all surrounded with a smooth and pleasant Beach: Each Island is a secure Harbour, and the Land of an excellent Nature; being cover'd chiefly with Oaks.—Had these insolent Wretches the Patience to consider the Means they have of becoming independent and comfortable, by applying themselves with a little Industry to the Cultivation of these Lands, which Nature has been so profuse in, that I am certain in a few Years this Settlement, would not be among the least considerable of *America*. I hear that the French Fort is tumbling to Pieces, our's has been new picked this Summer, and all the Earth Work repair'd; so that it is in a much better Condition than the French.— Yours, &c."

Extract of a Letter from *Newbury*, dated Feb. 12, 1754.

"Last Saturday Evening, after having observ'd, for about an Hour, Lightning at some Distance from us to the N. W. and low Thunder, a little before Eight o'Clock, we had two very severe Claps, which seem'd to proceed from a Cloud directly over our Heads in this Part of the Town where I live. The Lightning of the latter (which was presently upon the former) struck the Spire of our (Mr. Lowell's) Meeting House, cut it asunder at some considerable Distance from the Weather-cock, shattered the remaining lower Part and Cupola very much, flew down into the Steeple, shiver'd the Foot of one of the Corner Posts, broke several Windows of it almost all to Pieces, and others in the Body of the Meeting House on one Side of the Steeple, damaged two or three Pews on the same Side, especially in the Gallery, but no great Injury is done to the House within. The Steeple had lately been repaired at a considerable Cost, which makes the Blow the heavier; but we would in this give Thanks, that no Life is lost, or any Person hurt. Some Houses near the Meeting-House