

**James Innes to George Washington, September 27,  
1754, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.  
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**FROM COLONEL JAMES INNES.**

CAMP MOUNT PLEASANT <sup>1</sup> 27th Sepr. 1754

DR. SIR

Your favour of the 22d. from Alexa. I recd. & shou'd be extreemly glade to see you at Winchester, was it any way consistant with my situation to leave this without orders, with which you'll please acquaint Major Carlyle and that he would forgive me for not writing to him for I realy have not the time without delaying the Express, if the Governr. hath order'd your Regiment, here it would be very imprudent in me to Countermand them Especially as I expect Governr. Sharp with his Forces very soon and tho it be now turning towards Winter I would propose the doing something to forward the Service in the Spring. I have with great difficulty labourd hard and only with a few Tools found in this neighborhood brought in from the Meadows on which I seized. I have erected a puntion Fort which when compleated must of Course be of good Service in this part of the Province, as well as to the present Expedition. notwithstanding when Governr. Sharp and you join us I propose if we agree to goe thirty miles or more to the Westward to do something of the same kind there, tho by last night's advice, I have Account the French have gether'd three Hundred Indians to their Fort. since Mr. Lyon my Messenger came from that which was the 21st. Curtt to what purpose these Indians are I know not, but if to pay us a visit. I should be Glad of Your good Company. I observe what you write in regard to Ranking with His Majesty's

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Troops and I do assure you they are the same with me, and now afresh as Captain Rutherford is arrived with respect to my Commission from Governr. Dinwiddie, but my Commission from His Majesty being the Oldest leaves no room to cavil so all that subsides and tho I have the Command with the greatest harmony. as things are Circumstanced at present I undergoe Fatigue. Plagued & Continually harrassed in that station more than if otherways, to all which I freely submit tho not for any obligation the Commitee hath lay'd upon me, as I have the present service at heart and would do anything in my Power to help the operation of every Part, that you should do duty seperately and live in good harmonie untill His Majesty's Pleasure is known I will take the labouring our upon myself do double duty by giving out seperate orders, if any better expedient can be found shall be very ready to concur. poor Capt. Stobo is sent to Mount Teal and will be kept there till he is exchanged,<sup>2</sup> the Chiefest Reason I can give for this, I am afraid as he wrote two Letters to You and them Letters were open'd at Mr. Croughans and to Publickly spoke of and handed aboute the Knowledge thereof came to the Commanding Officers' knowledge, and he is strongly watch'd ever since, so that the wou'd not so much as let Mr. Lyon see him, I am sorry to hear many of your People are sick but thank God we are all well here and live in Cover, only I am obliged to spare some of my Rum as we want Spirits as the cold weather comes on.

I am with my complimts. to all Friends Dr. Sir Yor Most Humble. Servt. JAMES INNES

P. S. Mr. Splidolph wrote me a lettir sometime agoe about His Comission I have no objection please Acquaint him Your Recomendation will be sufficient for him to Act untill he arrives hear when he will certainly have one if you appoint him.

1 Fort Cumberland, named in honor of the Duke of Cumberland, Captain-General of the British Army (sometimes called Fort Mt. Pleasant), stood on the Bank of Wills' Creek, near its junction with the Potomac, on the site of the present city of Cumberland, in Alleghany County, Md. In ancient days the site of the fortification had been a Shawanese village, with the Indian name of Cucucvetuc.—SCHARF.

2 Captains Stobo and Vanbraam were held as hostages by the French for the prisoners taken in the skirmish with de Jumonville.