

**Joseph Ball to George Washington, September 5, 1755,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM JOSEPH BALL, ESQ. ¹

STRATFORD 5th. of Sepr. 1755.

GOOD COUZ.

It is a Sensible Pleasure to me to hear that you have behaved your-Self with such a Martial Spirit in all your Engagements with the French nigh Ohio. Go on as you have begun; and God prosper you.

We have heard of General Braddock's Defeat Every Body Blames his Rash Conduct.

Every body Commends the Courage of the Virginians and Carolina Men: which is very Agreeable to me.

I desire you, as you may from time to time have opportunity, to give me a Short Account how you proceed. As I am your Mother's Brother, I hope you Can't deny my Request.

There is Little News here. One of our Men of War has taken in our Channel a French Ship of 16 Guns, 2 Brigs, and a Schooner, bound for Martinico, and brought them in. And there were 11 more in the Fleet; after after which another Man of War is gone out in Chace.

What will be done with them 4 that are taken I Can't tell.

Library of Congress

There is no War Declared yet Either by the French or us; though it is expected there soon will.

The King is not Returned from Hanover yet; but is lookt for very soon: The Yachts are gone for him.

I heartily wish you Good Success, and am Yr. Loving Uncle JOS. BALL Please to direct to me at Stratford by Bow nigh London. —

Since the writing the Letter above, there are 6 more French vessels brought in. Though they pretended to be bound to the west Indies, they were really bound we found to Louisburgh.

Please deliver the Inclosed to your Mother. — To

Major GEORGE WASHINGTON at the Falls of Rappk. River or Elsewhere in Virginia By favour of Mr. BUTLER

1 Born in Lancaster County, March 11, 1689; died in Westham, England, January 10, 1760. Married Frances Ravenscraft, of Westham.