

**John Connolly to George Washington, August 29, 1773,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM DOCTOR JOHN CONNOLLY.

PITTSBURGH August 29th. 1773

DR: SIR.

I have lived some time past in the greatest hope of seeing you at this place; but whatsoever might have deterred my happiness in that respect must be attributed to purposes superior to my expectations; tho if consistent with your happiness nothing inferior to my warmest wishes.—Lord Dunmore hath done us the honour of a visit,¹ I dare not presume to give my opinions touching the Character of so considerable a Personage, but if I flatter myself I shall not widely differ from your sentiments if I conclude him to be a Gentleman of benevolence & universal Charity, & not unacquainted with either Man or the World.—I have his Lordships promise for 2000 Acres of Land at the Falls of the Ohio, which will induce me to wait upon his Excellency this Fall at Williamsburg, & in the excursion, I have the satisfaction to hope I shall have the agreeable opportunity of enjoying your Company on my Journey thither, in making your house a Stage.—

I have been at the expence of sending a person from this place to survey the Falls, not having a sufficient dependance upon Captt. Bullitt, whose Aerial Schemes have urged him to act in an extravagant manner; laying off Towns, & Townships every sixty miles upon the River; & corresponding to his Ideas has concluded the Falls to be a proper place for

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such intention, amongst others.—The Bearer of this Mr Wilper a german Gentleman has been with him & reports him to be so extraordinary a Genius, that I am glad I have had his Lordships permission to appoint a person to transact my business in that Country. Comparing the Date of this Letter with my expectations of your arrival here, urges me to think that I must postpone the pleasure of seeing you, untill I may have the honor of giving you a personal Visit, which will at any rate, be highly satisfactory to him who is with respect

Dr Sir your most obedt: Servt: JNO: CONNOLLY

¹ Burk (History of Virginia, vol. iii. p. 374) ascribes to Lord Dunmore something more than idle curiosity in his prolonged visit to Pittsburg, and accuses him of then selecting Connolly as his instrument in the unfortunate scheme that later on involved him in such difficulties,—the scheme “to engage Virginia and Pennsylvania in a civil war about their territorial boundary, and to rouse once more to arms the warlike tribes of savages, whose fury had so often deluged the western settlements with blood.” Later historians, however, scout the idea that such motives should be attributed to Dunmore.