

cular in representing the situation of this province, out of regard to so thriving a colony, which might be the great strength and security of many of the most important concerns of the whole nation in America, if rightly conducted; while it otherwise seems to be in imminent danger of being lost, and many other important places with it. If the French remain in possession of that important place, fort *du Quesne*, the first thing they will do, no doubt, will be to convert it into a strong and redoutable fortress, which will give the people of *Pennsylvania* a greater occasion for the use of arms than any others perhaps in all America besides; and they seem to have no way to prevent that necessity, but to use their arms now, before it may be too late.

Here then we may see the incredible bad situation of our colonies, with regard to an enemy. Many seem to inquire and wonder, how it is possible for a handfull of French to over-run them, as they do; but if they were to know the truth, they would see it could hardly be prevented, without some new regulation in our colonies. The charter colonies of *New-England* possess the whole sea-coast in the northern parts, for 500 miles and upwards, while they have no concern in the inland parts: and the proprietary colonies, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, and *Maryland*, pos-