

1759.
August 6,
Pittsburgh.

Col. Mercer to Stanwix. Indians collecting for a conference respecting the conduct of the Delawares; their consumption of provisions prevents any saving between convoys. Capt. Gordon assisted by the garrison in preparing material for the works. The two Highlanders (p. 77) were carried off by Taways, and no doubt killed, as the Taways were seen going off with scalps. Page 84

August 6,
Pittsburgh.

George Croghan to the same. Sends the latest intelligence. Indians met for a council to take the hatchet out of the hands of some Indians who still keep with the French. Great numbers of Indians coming to trade. (Note from Major Tulleken that he would keep by the waggons he found at Stony Creek till they reach Ligonier. 85

August 7,
Pittsburgh.

Intelligence, dated 1st Aug., from Venango enclosed. 87
Minutes of conference between George Croghan and the chiefs and warriors of the Delawares, Shawanese, Wyandots, Twigtwees, Ottawas, Chippewas, Cuscuskees and Pottawatomes. 89 to 96

August 10,
Bedford.

Bouquet to Croghan. His intelligence from Niagara is welcome. The Indians do as much mischief devouring provisions at Pittsburgh as by destroying them on the road. A large number of men must be employed to build the fort at Pittsburgh, but they cannot be sent so long as these idle people daily consume all the provisions that arrive. This must be stopped. Those who must be kept are to be reduced to the same rations as the soldiers; the rest must be referred to a general treaty. 99

August 15,
Pittsburgh.

Col. Mercer to Stanwix. The report of the burning of Venango, LeBoeuf and Presqu'Isle by the French is confirmed. Bateaux and flats getting ready to carry troops to Niagara. Capt. Robertson marches to-morrow with the convoy to Ligonier. 101

August 15,
Pittsburgh.

The same to Bouquet. Elevating news flows in from every quarter. Indian news true in general, but false in particulars, as the Indians get reports from second hand. Regrets the expenditure for Indians, whose services, now that the enemy are running across the lake, have become contemptible. Is observing orders to get rid of the Indians and to reduce the allowance of those who remain. No horses have been stolen since the arrival of the convoy, orders having been given to fire on every Indian seen taking off any; some might be purchased from them, were there goods to give in exchange. Bateaux fitting up; the convoys from Ligonier return as strong as they come. The knowledge Capt. Robertson has of military affairs, &c. 102

August 16,
Pittsburgh.

The same to the same. Has sent Major Ward to join the Pennsylvanians, and drawn to pay him and the waggoners. Reported burning of Venango, &c. Of the French troops that went to relieve Niagara, 200 were killed and few of the rest came in. 105

August 20,
Pittsburgh.

The same to Stanwix. Forwards a letter brought by Indians from Sir William Johnson. Owing to the roads, it is impossible to march a body of men from Presqu'Isle to Niagara; how the troops can be sent. The Indian who scalped the waggoner is one of Killbuck's party; he is to be delivered. Severe measures must be taken with these people; their rapacity, &c. 106

August 20,
Pittsburgh.

The same to Bouquet. Arrival of Major Tulleken and different convoys. Will purchase such of the horses as may speedily recruit and send them to Ligonier, as they are not secure in any pasture here. The villainy of Killbuck's party; the insolence of the Delawares must be checked. Is afraid the arrival of Catawbas will embroil matters. 108

August 23,
Pittsburgh.

The same to Col. Byrd. A waggoner killed and another fired on by three Indians on the road to Ligonier, who killed his horse and stole some horses from a convoy of empty waggons, under escort. Waggon found on the road to Cumberland, with the traces cut. No convoy safe