

you will execute the office of priest. I am tired of your absence, and long for nothing more than to be with you; here is Capt. Proby and eight transports, arrived last Wednesday; Capt. Taggart arrived this morning, and a sloop from New-York with provisions for the troops, the news has not yet come on shore, our troops remain in good health, and long to follow you.

Yours, &c.

PREBBLE.

To Col. Winslow, commanding at Minas.

CAMP AT CUMBERLAND, 5th Sept. 1775.

Dear Sir—I received your favor from Captain Nichols, of the 23d Aug. rejoice to hear that the lines are fallen to you in pleasant hands, and that you have a goodly heritage. I understand you are surrounded by good things of this world, and having a sanctified place for your habitation, hope you will be prepared for the enjoyments of another; we are mouldering away our time in your absence, which has rendered this place to me worse than a prison; we have only this to comfort us, that we are as nigh heaven as you are at Minas, and since we are denied the good things in this world, doubt not we shall be happy in the next. It is with grief I inform you, that on the second instant, Major Frye, being at Shepoudie, where he was ordered to burn the buildings and bring off the women and children, the number of which was only twenty-three, which he had sent on board, and burned 253 buildings, and had sent fifty men on shore to burn the Mess House and some other buildings which was the last they had to do, when about three hundred French and Indians came suddenly upon them, and killed Doctor Marsh, shot Lieut. Billing through the body, and through the arm, killed and wounded 22, and wounded six more; they retreated to the dykes, and Major Frye landed with what men we got off shore and made a stand, but their numbers being superior to ours; we were forced to retreat.—Your sincere friend,

JEDEDIAH PREBBLE.

To Col. Winslow, Commanding the troops at Minas.