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Esquire, to

10, 1755.

Letter from  
April the 7th,  
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himself under the Commodore's Orders; that, with some other Advices, made me to conclude, that Commodore Keppel was in *Virginia*; but I had not at that Time any Knowledge of your Arrival in *Virginia*, nor even any Certainty of your coming there, much less could I form any Judgment of the Nature and Extent of your Commissions. This, Sir, is the real Truth of the Matter: I hope you will do me that Justice to believe it.

Lieutenant Colonel Monckton, with the provincial Troops under his Orders, is at present very near, if not quite before, the Fort *Beau-sejour*; and as I have cut off all Communication by Land, between that Place, and the Northern Parts of the Province, in order to deprive the *French* Inhabitants from knowing any Thing that might be prejudicial to our Designs; therefore it is impossible for me to acquaint you with the Progress the Lieutenant Colonel has made. I shall have the Honour to let you know the Particulars of our Enterprize by the first Opportunity.

I shall give particular Attention to your Orders, for augmenting each of the three Regiments that are here, to a Thousand Men each; and I should not delay one Moment, if I was informed on what Conditions these Men are to be raised and what Pay they are to have; but as I have not as yet received any particular Orders from *England*, concerning the Augmentation, and that none of those Officers are yet come, whom I daily expect, I hope you will look upon it as a Thing impracticable for me to proceed therein.

According to the Advices I have received from *New-England*, on Account of the Men who have been raised there for the Regiments of Governor *Shirley*, and Sir *William Pepperell's*, and the Difficulties in raising the said Recruits, I fear, that if I am obliged to send there for the Number of Men we shall want, the Augmentation of our Troops will be long upon Hand, and composed of sorry Troops: But I hope to succeed better among the provincial Levies that are actually at *Beau-sejour*, who

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