



Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania – reconstructed

Picture Source: Pennsylvania State Historic Site of Fort Loudoun

#### **Appendix D:**

### **Lt. Charles Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. and Smith's Rebellion, Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania, Mar. 9 -Nov. 25, 1765**

#### **Introduction**

Charles Grant was born in Scotland on Mar. 13, 1740, the youngest child of Jacobite Alexander Grant, 4<sup>th</sup> of Sheuglie and his second wife, Isabella Grant (daughter of John Grant, 6<sup>th</sup> of Glenmoriston) and began his service in the British Army as a Volunteer in the 77<sup>th</sup> Regt. (Montgomery's Highlanders) during the French and Indian War. Vol. Grant took part in Maj. James Grant of Ballindalloch's abortive attack on Fort Duquesne (at the current site of the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) in September 1758 and was captured and held prisoner by the Wyandot Tribe who moved him to their camp near Detroit, Michigan.

In July 1759 a letter from Lt. James Grant, 77<sup>th</sup> Highland Regt., to Col. Henry Bouquet requested assistance for Grant writing "*Colonel [Archibald] Montgomery desires his Compliments to you & General [John] Stanwix & begs the favour Youl exert yourselves in recovering the prisoners among the Indians taken in Major Grants affair particularly L<sup>t</sup> [Alexander] M<sup>c</sup>Donald [77<sup>th</sup> Regt.] & M<sup>r</sup> Charles Grant, a Volunteer who came from home under Major Grants protection, if this opportunity of treating w<sup>t</sup> the Indians when you are in their Country, is overlooked; it is hard to Say how long those poor people may remain in Slavery.*" Vol. Charles Grant and Maj. James Grant of Ballindalloch were distant cousins.

In late Nov. 1760 Capt. Campbell, 60<sup>th</sup> or Royal American Regt., arrived at Detroit to accept the surrender of the fort, per an earlier arrangement with the French. The former French Garrison of three officers and

35 privates was sent to Fort Pitt and arrived on Dec. 24, 1760. Croghan noted on Dec. 2, 1760 that "*Lieut. [Robert] Holmes [of Roger's Rangers] set out with M<sup>r</sup> Belleater and the rest of the Garrison for Fort Pitt with whom I sent 15 English Prisoners that I had got from the Indians.*" Lt. Holmes made a listing or "*Return*" of the released English prisoners at Detroit dated Dec. 26, 1760 and included Vol. Charles Grant, indicating he had been captured at Major Grant's defeat near Fort Duquesne, Sept. 14, 1758, and had been a prisoner with the "*Wyondot Indians*" ever since.

Soon after Vol. Grant's arrival at Fort Pitt, Col. Henry Bouquet, commander at Fort Pitt sent a letter to Maj. Gen. Hon. Robert Monckton which read "*Fort Pitt 25<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1761 Sir, The bearer M<sup>r</sup>. Charles Grant was a Volunteer in Col. Montgomery's Regiment, and had the misfortune to be taken by the Indians in the Campaign of 1758. Having made his Escape, he came here last month, and hath been sick ever since, as he desired me to inform you of his case I take the liberty to do it ...*"

Grant was commissioned Ensign in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. effective July 28, 1760, although still a prisoner of the Indians until Nov. 1760. After commissioning Ens. Grant likely participated in the capture of Montreal in 1761 and Martinique in 1762. Ens. Grant was promoted to Lieutenant in July 1762 and instead of going out on half-pay when the battalion was reduced at the end of the war, he reverted to the rank of Ensign but retained his seniority as Lieutenant. Grant participated in the 1764 expedition to Muskingum, Ohio under Col. Henry Bouquet.

Lt. Grant was the commander of Fort Loudoun in Western Pennsylvania in 1764 and 1765 with a half-company of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to enforce the Proclamation Line of 1763, which prohibited illegal settlement west of the Allegheny Mountains. Fort Loudoun was located about 70 miles southwest of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and about 150 miles southeast of Fort Pitt where the largest part of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. was located. In 1765 Lt. Grant was involved in a series of confrontations with James Smith, the leader of the "*Sidling Hill Volunteers*" a local paramilitary group of about 300 men, also nicknamed "*The Black Boys*," who darkened their faces prior to engagements. Lt. Grant wrote to Col. Henry Bouquet on Mar. 9, 1765 explaining the beginning of the conflict. Grant wrote "*...The Country People is Very Much Alarmed here, By the Goods that is Going up to George Croghan as presents for the Indians, there was about One Hundred of the Country People that Raised in Arms to stop the Goods five miles from this place, at Justice Smiths. they followed them to the Great Cove; where they Killed three Horses and Wounded three More, and threatened to Kill the Drivers if They did Not go away from the Goods Immediately. they burnt Sixty three Loads of the goods.*"

At one point Grant was captured by Smith but was soon released. Brevet-Lt. Col. John Reid, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., described Grant's capture in a letter to Gen. Thomas Gage from Carlisle dated June 1, 1765, writing "*I received letters from Lieutenant Grant, Commanding at Fort Loudoun, complaining much of some Late insults, received from the Rioters near that post. He says on the 28th Ultimo, [May], he was taking the air on Horseback and about half a mile from his post, was surrounded by Five of the Rioters, who presented their pieces at him; the person who commanded them to shoot the Bougar, that one of them fired at him, which frightened his horse, who run into the Bushes & occasioned his being thrown upon the Ground. They then disarmed him, carried him fifteen Miles into the Woods and threatened to tye him to a Tree and leave him to perish, if he would not give them up some Arms...*"

At the worst point in the conflict the "*Black Boys*" actually attacked the fort to recover some of their captured weapons on Nov. 16, 1765 as described by Lt. Grant in a letter to the commander of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at Fort Pitt on Nov. 22. Lt. Grant wrote "*... On the 16<sup>th</sup> Instant, a man came in from the Country, and told me that there was Three Different Party's waiting about the Fort, to take Me and Mr. [Sgt. Leonard M<sup>c</sup>]Glashan Prisoners, as they heard we were to March soon; at 7 o'clock at Night, the Fort was Surrounded by a number of the Rioters, who kept firing and hooting the whole night; next day they got more men and encampt round the Fort, so that nobody could come in or go out of the Fort, they began*

*next night and kept firing till Day light, when they sent me word that they wanted their Arms to be delivered to the Magistrates. I told them that I did apply to the Justices, but that they refused to take the Arms; at 10 o'clock they appeared to the number of about 100, and fir'd upon all Corners of the Fort, so that the Centry's could not stand upright upon the Bastions; they kept firing at the Fort to one o'clock, when Mr. M'Dowell came in, and said, if I would let him have the Arms, that he would give me a Receipt, and that those Arms would remain in his House till such time as the Governor would give Orders about them, and that the owners would be satisfied whatever the Governor thought proper to do with them. As the General wrote to me to give up the Arms when the Governor would desire it, I condescended so much as to take Mr. McDowell's Receipt, that the Arms would not be delivered up to the Owners, till the Governor would desire it, as the Garrison was much fatigued for want of Sleep for two nights and two days before, owing to the Rioters firing on the Fort. I thought it best to give the Arms to Mr. M'Dowell, as I had no particular orders for carrying them with me..."*

Grant's situation at Fort Loudoun was finally resolved when his detachment was pulled from the fort by the regiment. Capt. William Grant described the end of the affair to the regimental commander by letter in Nov. 25, 1765. Capt. Grant explained "...Lieut. Grant, with his Garrison, is at last gone to Fort Pitt; I sent Ensign [Peter] Herring with thirty men to take him off from Loudoun, and I find it was very necessary. He was Besieged for two Nights and two Days; the Rioters fired some hundreds of Shot at the Stockades, and in return, one of his Sentries fired only one Single Shot, this Sentry was personally fired at three different times, which at last provoked him to fire a shot; many Balls went through Patton's House, and many Lodged in the Stockades of the Fort. Lieut. Grant had but little Ammunition, which made him Cautious to fire till the Lawless Scoundrels would come close to the Fort, the Villians Encamped at Night round the Fort, lighted Fires; Mr. Grant counted Twenty, and he believes the number of the rioters might Exceed Two Hundred. In this affair, Justice [William] Smith proves himself to be a most Atrocious Scoundre'l, which you will see in a Letter from him to Mr. Grant, which Mr. Grant has inclosed to you, with a Circumstantial Account from Mr. Grant, of every thing that happened since the rioters last broke out, to which I refer you."

Grant resumed his service with the regiment in Pennsylvania before sailing with the regiment to Ireland in 1767 where he was finally re-promoted to Lieutenant in Ireland on Dec. 16, 1771 (effective with his earlier date of rank of Aug. 1762) in place of Lt. Nathaniel McCulloch, who had died. Several editions of the annual Army List incorrectly listed Grant's date of rank as 1771, but the date was corrected to Aug. 9, 1762 by the 1775 edition. Lt. Grant obtained Capt. Alexander, Earl of Balcarres' Company when Lord Balcarres was promoted out of the regiment in Mar. 1776.

Capt. Charles Grant's complete biography is provided in this volume in Appendix A: "*Biographies of the Officers of the 42<sup>nd</sup> or Royal Highland Regiment During the American War for Independence, 1775-1783.*"

More detailed history of Smith's rebellion are provided in *Sons of the Mountains*, Vol. I, by Ian Macpherson McCulloch, Purple Mountain Press, 2006, pp. 332-334 and at the website *Smith Rebellion 1765* at <http://smithrebellion1765.com>.

### Documents

#### **Account of the Sideling Hill Affair by the leader of the "Black Boys," Former Lt. James Smith, Pennsylvania Regt., Mar. 1, 1765**

In the year 1764, I received a lieutenant's commission, and went out on General [Henry] Bouquet's campaign against the Indians on the Muskingum. Here we brought them to terms, and promised to be at peace with them, upon condition that they would give up all our people that they had

then in captivity among them. They then delivered unto us three hundred of the prisoners, and said that they could not collect them all at this time, as it was now late in the year, and they were far scattered; but they promised that they would bring them all into Fort Pitt early next spring, and as security that they would do this, they delivered to us six of their chiefs, as hostages. Upon this we settled a cessation of arms for six months, and promised upon their fulfilling the aforesaid condition, to make with them a permanent peace.

A little below Fort Pitt the hostages all made their escape. Shortly after this the Indians stole horses, and killed some people on the frontiers. The king's proclamation was then circulating and set up in various public places, prohibiting any person from trading with the Indians, until further orders.

Notwithstanding all this, about the first of March 1765, a number of waggons loaded with Indian goods, and warlike stores, were sent from Philadelphia to Henry Pollen's, Conococheague [now Antrim Township, Shady Grove, Peters Township, Falling Spring and Path Valley] and from thence seventy packhorses were loaded with these goods, in order to carry them to Fort Pitt. This alarmed the country, and Mr. William Duffield raised about fifty armed men, and met the pack-horses at the place where Mercersburg now stands. Mr. Duffield desired the employers to store up their goods, and not proceed until further orders. They made light of this, and went over the North Mountain, where they lodged in a small valley called the Great Cove. Mr. Duffield and his party followed after, and came to their lodging, and again urged them to store up their goods:—He reasoned with them on the impropriety of their proceedings, and the great danger the frontier inhabitants would be exposed to, if the Indians should now get a supply:—He said as it was well known that they had scarcely any amunition, and were almost naked, to supply them now, would be a kind of murder, and would be illegally trading at the expence of the blood and treasure of the frontiers. Notwithstanding his powerful reasoning, these traders made game of what he said, and would only answer him by ludicrous burlesque.

When I beheld this, and found that Mr. Duffield would not compel them to store up their goods, I collected ten of my old warriors, that I had formerly disciplined in the Indian way, went off privately, after night, and encamped in the woods. The next day, as usual, we blacked and painted [their faces], and waylaid them near Sidelong Hill. I scattered my men about forty rod along the side of the road, and ordered every two to take a tree, and about eight or ten rod between each couple, with orders to keep a reserve fire, one not to fire until his comrade had loaded his gun—by this means we kept up a constant, slow fire, upon them from front to rear:—We then heard nothing of these trader's merriment or burlesque. When they saw their packhorses falling close by them, they called out *pray gentlemen, what would you have us to do?* The reply was, *collect all your loads to the front, and unload them in one place; take your private property, and immediately retire.* When they were gone, we burnt what they left, which consisted of blankets, shirts, vermilion, lead, beads, wampum, tomahawks, scalping knives, &c.

The traders went back to Fort Loudon, and applied to the commanding officer there, and got a party of Highland soldiers, and went with them in quest of the robbers, as they called us, and without applying to a magistrate, or obtaining any civil authority, but barely upon suspicion, they took a number of creditable persons prisoners, (who were chiefly not in any way concerned in this action) and confined them in the guard-house in Fort Loudon. I then raised three hundred riflemen, marched to Fort Loudon, and encamped on a hill in sight of the fort. We were not long there, until we had more than double as many of the British troops prisoners in our camp, as they had of our people in the guard-house. Captain [Lt. Charles] Grant, a Highland officer, who commanded Fort Loudon, then sent a flag of truce to our camp, where we settled a cartel, and gave them above two for one, which enabled us to redeem all our men from the guard-house, without further difficulty.

After this Captain Grant kept a number of rifle guns, which the Highlanders had taken from the country people, and refused to give them up. As he was riding out one day, we took him prisoner, and detained him until he delivered up the arms; we also destroyed a large quantity of gun-powder that the traders had stored up, lest it might be conveyed privately to the Indians. The king's troops, and our party, had now got entirely out of the channel of the civil law, and many unjustifiable things were done by both parties. This convinced me more than ever I had been before, of the absolute necessity of the civil law, in order to govern mankind.

Source: *An Account of the Remarkable Occurrences in the Life and travels of Col. James Smith*, James Smith, Printed by John Bradford, Lexington (Ky.) 1799, pp. 107-111.

**Letter from Lt. Charles Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to Col. Henry Bouquet, 60<sup>th</sup> Regt.,  
Regarding “*Smith’s Rebellion*,” Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania, Mar. 9, 1765**

Sir,

The Country People is Very Much Alarmed here, By the Goods that is Going up to George Croghan as presents for the Indians, there was about One Hundred of the Country People that Raised in Arms to stop the Goods five miles from this place, at Justice Smiths. they followed them to the Great Cove; where they Killed three Horses and Wounded three More, and threatened to Kill the Drivers if They did Not go away from the Goods Immediately. they burnt Sixty three Loads of the goods.

Cap<sup>t</sup> [Robert] Callander Came to me to give him a Serj<sup>t</sup> and Twelve to Send to the place Where the Goods was Distroyed To See if any was Left and Likewise to Take Some of The people Prisoners if they could. They Caught two, And on their Return home fifty of the Country people Meet the Serj<sup>t</sup> to Rescue the prisoners from him. Some of them Cocked their guns at the Serj<sup>t</sup> one of which he Snatched his gun from and Maid the fellow prisoner Will three More of the Said party Cap<sup>t</sup> Callander Thought it proper to leve the prisoners Here as the Country People is Raising in Arms and if he wou’d to take them Down I don’t think it would be Safe, for the Men that is raising in Arms is determined to Rescue them if possible when they are going down to Carlisle and if they were there, it is thought, that they would break the Geoal it is very much Reported here that they would take the prisoners from me by force I heard word Sent to me that there was Two Hundred of them in Arms to Come and Demand the prisoners from me and if I did not Deliver them they would burn the fort about my Ears and take them by force.

all the men was oblegded to be Under arms last night for I expected the [they] would Come by what was Reported to me. Sir I am you most Obedient Servant

Charles Grant Lieu<sup>t</sup> 42 Reg<sup>t</sup>  
Commanding at Loudoun

Fort Loudoun 9<sup>th</sup> March 1765  
To Henry Bouquet

Source and Notes: *The Papers of Henry Bouquet Volume VI Selected Documents November 1761 – July 1765*, Ed. by Louis M. Waddell, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, 1994, pp. 763-764. Fort Loudoun was located about fourteen miles west of the present city of Chambersburg in Southwest Pennsylvania. As part of the end of war reduction, Lt. Grant was reduced to Ensign, but retained the title of Lieutenant.

**Deposition of Lt. Charles Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., Regarding “*Smith’s Rebellion*,”  
Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania, Mar. 9 – May 28, 1765**

Cumberland County, ss.

Personally appeared before me, one of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for Said County, Lieut<sup>t</sup> Charles Grant, Who, upon his Solemn Oath upon the holy Evangelist of Almighty God, Declares that on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March last, James Smith, late Lieut<sup>t</sup> in the Pennsylvania Service, did in a Riotous manner, at the Head of a Body of Armed Men appear before this Fort; upon my Seeing Such a Multitude under Arms, I sent a man with a Message to their Commander to come & Speak with me. He, the said James Smith, came & acknowledged that he was the Man that Headed Said party. I asked him what he meant by appearing with Such a Mobb before the King’s Fort? He said that he came to demand the prisoners which I had at that time in Custody, & that he Understood they were to be Committed to Carlisle Goal. I asked him what he wou’d do Suppose they were Sent to Carlisle & Escorted by the King’s Troops? He made answer, that his party should first Fire over the Soldiers, & if they would not give up the prisoners upon that, they were Determined to fight the Troops, & die to a Man Sooner than let them prisoners go to Goal.

10<sup>th</sup> of May last a Body of 200 Men, as near as I could Guess, appeared before this Garrison, the above-mentioned James Smith being one of their Ring-leaders, as did likewise arrive at this Fort, the Justices [William] Smith, Reyonald & Allison; Justice Smith & Reyonald desired that I wou'd let them inspect the Goods, & that wou'd Satisfy the Rioters. I told them that the Goods were, by the General's orders, under my Care, & that I had orders from the General at the same time to send for a Magistrate & take an Inventory of all the Goods, But cou'd not proceed upon any Such Business at a time when there was Such a Body of Armed Rioters about the Garrison, but wou'd be obliged to call upon Some of them next week for that purpose. To which Justice Smith made answer, that he was not Subject to the General's Orders, therefore if he did not get liberty to take an Inventory of them at that time, he would not Come again to do it.

I then Shewed the Justice the orders which I had from Brigadier General [Henry] Bouquet for permitting Goods to pass, as likewise the permitt Joseph Spear had from the Commanding officer at Fort Pitt for the Carrying of Goods for the Support of the Troops on the Communication; to which Justice Smith answered, that the Commanding officer's pass was no pass, and that no Military Officer's pass would do without a Magistrate's pass. Justice Smith said likewise, that this was not a King's Fort, nor was this the King's Road, & said, that five Hundred men wou'd not Escort up these Goods without a Magistrate's pass.

28<sup>th</sup> May, I was Riding out, & about a mile from this post as I was Coming home in Company with two other Men, was Waylay'd by five Men Arm'd, Namely, James Smith, Samuel Owens, John Piery, & two others, whose names I don't know, all under the Command of the aforesaid James Smith, Some called out to Catch me, others to Shoot me; On which I Rush'd thro' them, & on passing one of them attempted to Catch my Horse by the Bridle, Notwithstand<sup>s</sup> I passed them all; and when they saw that I was out of their hands, one of them fired a Gun, whether at me or my Horse, I cannot say, at which my horse Started into the Thickett which occasioned my falling; the Rioters then came up to me, made me as they said the King's prisoner, upon which one of them said, "take the Durk of the Rascall." I asked them for what? They said they wou'd let me know that before I wou'd go home. I asked them where they were taking me to? They said they wou'd take me before Justice Reyonald. I ask'd if it would not do as well to go before Justice Smith, being the most Convenient? They Said that their orders was to Bring me before Justice Reyonald. They Brought me into the Woods that night Seven Miles from my post, & there Kept me all night without any Manner of Shelter; they told me that unless I would give up the Arms that I had in the Fort, that they wou'd Carry me away into the Mountains & keep me there, & that in the mean time the Country wou'd Rise & take the Fort by force of Arms, & by that means they wou'd have all the goods in the Fort as well as their Own Arms. I told them that it was not in my power to give up their Arms without orders from my Commanding officer, & told them they would be dealt with as Rebels if they would do what they threatened. Their Commander, James Smith, said that they were as Ready for a Rebellion as we were to oppose it, & they acknowledge that their proceedings were Contrary to law; & after holding a Council Determined to go of to Carolina & take me along. They set out, & brought me about eight Miles farther. I having no Dobt but they wou'd bring me to Carolina, I ask'd them what they would have me do in the Matter, as I told them before how much it was out of my power to Deliver up their Arms? They ask'd me if I wou'd give Security to Deliver up their Arms or pay £40? To which I consented Rather than go to Carolina, on which they agreed to Bring me to an Inn at Justice Smith's, Where I gave a Bond for £40 it I did not deliver up their Arms in five Weeks.

As they were taking me away they Declared their Determination in firing upon the Troops in Case any of them Shou'd be sent in Quest of Mr.\_\_\_\_ The aforesaid James Smith was the Ringleader of the party that took Ser<sup>t</sup> [Leonard] MaGlasken, belonging to the Garrison under my Command, & used him very ill.

Some days after I was Releas'd from the Rioters, I was at the House of Justice Smith, Where I met the five Men that took me & Carried me away as above Mentioned, & I told Justice Smith that those were the Men that took me away, & in what Manner they used me, But he took no Notice of it.

Source and Note: *Pennsylvania Archives...Commencing 1760*, Vol. IV, Ed. Samuel Hazard, Joseph Severne & Co., Philadelphia, 1853, Google Books, pp. 220-222. Fort Loudoun was located about fourteen miles west of the present city of Chambersburg in Southwest Pennsylvania.



Detail of Gen. Hon. Thomas Gage, 1788, by John Singleton Copley

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Letter from Lt. Charles Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., to Maj. Gen. Thomas Gage, Commander-in-Chief, North America, Describing Events During “Smith’s Rebellion,” Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania, Aug. 24, 1765**

Fort Loudoun, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1765.

Sir:

I thought it my Duty to Send your Excellency a Cobby of the Depositions of Serjeant [Leonard] McGlashin, and severals of the Men who were with him opposing the Outrages Committed by the Country people, near Fort Loudon; & also the Depositions of Several other people of Credit, Concerning the Assembling of the Rioters at different times at Justice Smiths, and his behaviour on those Occasions. This I thought the more Necessary, as your Excellency may perhaps think proper to send Coppys of them to Governor [John] Penn. As I have great Reason to think attempts have been, & will be made, to impose upon him by false Representations, from a Sett of Men who have acted against all Laws, Except those of their own making & have Combined against the King’s Troops, & I fear the Governor may be too apt to listen to their false Assertions, as a Number of the Magistrates of the County have lately drawn up a Remonstrance or Something of that Kind to the Governor, in a private manner, in which I have great Reason to believe they have endeavour’d to thro the Blame off themselves and their people, & fix it Upon me & the Garrison I Command. This appears to be the Case, as Justice [William] Smith, who was Sent for by the Governor, on Receipt of a Cobby of Col. [John] Reid’s letter from your Excellency has Returned, & in Consequence of the above Remonstrance, I’m informed, Stands in a fair light with tho Governor—Tho’ I Humbly presume there is the Strongest presumption of Justice Smiths Countenancing and assisting the Rioters. I have sent your Excellency a Cobby of one of Justice Smiths passes, together with the Certificate of James Smith, his Brotherinlaw, an Insolent Troublesome fellow, who has Constantly appeared at the Head of those Rioters. I Rec<sup>d</sup> a letter some time ago from the Governor, desiring me to send him my Deposition, in order that he might the Better be enabled to bring the offenders to punishment, I accordingly sent it him, but as I have Reason to Apprehend that a great part of the Remonstrance of the Magistrates was in opposition to my Deposition, & Set forth that the Reasons of the Differences between the Soldiers & the Country people, was the high Bribes given by the Owners of the Goods to the Soldiers, to assist them in their undertaking. I should be glad if your Excellency woud order me a Cobby of said Remonstrance.

When at the Request of Captain [Robert] Callendar, I orderd the Serjeant and party first out to assist in Recovering such of the Goods as were not Burn'd; Mr. Callender told the Serjeant he woud give them something for their Trouble, & for every person he Coud take who coud be proved to be Concern'd at Burning the Goods, he woud give a Reward of £10, But I told him that was unnecessary, as the Serj<sup>t</sup> must obey the Orders I had given him. I have also sent your Excellency a Cobby of Justice Smith Warrant for Apprehending Serj<sup>t</sup> [Leonard] McGlashon for Wounding one Brown, a Rioter, who was perfectly Recovered some time before he Issued the Warrant. I shoud be glad to be informd by your Excellency whether I have acted Right or not, in not Delivering him up to the Constable on the Warrant from Smith, who, in my opinion, has forfeited every Right to act as a Majistrate, & who woud have got the poor Serj<sup>t</sup> Try'd by a Jury of his own adherents, with Mr. Armstrong, of Carlisle, at their head, who favours the Rioters, & woud have had no Mercy on him. I shoud also be glad of your Excellency's Orders with Regard to the Arms taken from the Rioters & now in the Garrison; Some of those fellows had the Insolence to Send me Word by the Constable that Colonel Reid, at the head of his Regim<sup>t</sup>, Shoud not take them from F. Loudoun.

The above Mentiond Brown, who was wounded, was seen a Day or two before Blackd at the head of a party who Search'd some Wagons, & the Morning before he was wounded he fired of his Gun as a Signal to the party to attack the pack Horses & Drivers, tho he is Represented as an Innocent Country Man about his Lawful Business. I am informd by good authority, that Mr. Allen, Chief Justice of this Province, has said, that if I shoud come to Philad<sup>a</sup> he shoud be obligd to arrest me by a provential Warrant, on account of my proceedings at this Post. As I have inclosed Your Excellency a particular acco<sup>t</sup> of my Transactions Since the Commencement of these Disturbances, I submit to you whether I have acted Right or Wrong.

I am, Sir, with due Respect,  
Your Excellencys most obedient & very H<sup>b</sup>le Servant,  
Charles Grant  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>. 42 Reg<sup>t</sup>. Commanding at Fort Loudoun.

His Excellency Gen<sup>l</sup> Gage.

*Directed.*

On his Majesties Service—To His Excellency The Honble General Gage, Commander in Chief of his Majestys Forces in N. America, New York.

Source: *Pennsylvania Archives...Commencing 1760*, Vol. IV, Ed. Samuel Hazard, Joseph Severne & Co., Philadelphia, 1853, Google Books, pp. 281-183.

**Extract of a Letter from Lt. Charles Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt., to Maj. Gen. Hon. Thomas Gage, Commander in Chief, North America, Explaining Conduct During Final Period of "Smith's Rebellion," Fort Loudoun, Pennsylvania, Sept. 16, 1765**

Fort Loudoun, 16<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup>, 1765.

It gives me the greatest Concern to find that Complaints should have been made against me to your Excellency by Governor [John] Penn; I must therefore Suppose that the Authors of these Complaints are too deeply Concerned in the late Riots Committed near this Post, to give You a fair and Candid Representation of my Conduct; But as I am Conscious to myself of having Acted according to the best of my Capacity, and Without any other motive than to give Assistance to the Distressed, I will therefore Enumerate every Action that I think my Enemies (who are numerous) can take hold of, and Humbly Submit them to Your Excellency as the properest Judge. I thought it an Indispensable duty in Me, as part of the Convoy of Goods which were Destroyed were Represented to be the property of the Crown, to give all the Assistance in my Power for their Protection, and to Assist every Subject also in the Defence of his property, seeing the whole Country Almost in Arms, and Certain Magistrates whose Duty it was to Quell such lawless proceedings, Appearing openly with an Armed Banditti, whom they seemed to Countenance

in their lawless Measures. My Enemies, I am told, have Accused me of receiving high Bribes for saving these Goods, which I afterwards protected, in Consequence of Your Excellency's Order, but I Assure Your Excellency that I never did, and none but mean Spirited Wretches, Void of Honor or Honesty themselves, would have dared to Accuse any Officer holding His Majesty's Commission of so mean an Action. I Confess that M<sup>r</sup>. [Robert] Callender did, contrary to my Inclination, give some money openly to the Soldiers, as they had risked their Lives, and on different Occasions Suffered a good deal of Fatigue, having also Carried the whole Goods belonging to that Company into the Fort on their Backs to prevent their being Pillaged. Another Objection made against me, as I am told, and the most Weighty, is that I got from a Constable Possession of a Warrant Issued by Justice [William] Smith, for apprehending a Serjeant [Leonard M<sup>c</sup>Glashan] under my Command, on a Supposition that he had Wounded one of the Rioters, who it can be proved was very Active in that Affair, and who was long recovered of his Wound before the said Warrant was Issued; And it was a Considerable time thereafter that (the Constable happening to come to the Fort) I thought of Asking him for the Warrant, which he gave me, And I Confess I have kept it with a design to make Use of it against Justice [William] Smith, and thereby to prove that tho' he would give me-no Redress for the gross Insult offered to me by those lawless Fellows who Carried me from my Post Prisoner into the Wood, and whom I met at his own House, and Complained of to him without Redress; Yet he had the Assurance afterwards to Issue Said Warrant with a Malicious design, as I had reason to believe, to persecute the poor Serjeant who had received hard usage for doing his Duty, And who I thought it Incumbent on me to Protect from the merciless Rioters who must have been his Judges. I Confess also that as Justice Smith had Appeared to me to trample upon the Laws, by being so deeply Concerned with those Robbers, (which I have Still reason to think will be proved) I therefore did not Consider him any longer as a Magistrate, and used the freedom to keep the Warrant which he was Extreemly desirous of recovering from me, Suspecting the use I intended to make of it. Another Complaint made against me is, that when the Magistrates Assembled at Loudoun, by Order of Governor [John] Penn, to Enquire into the Conduct of some of their Brethren, they came into the Fort and Intended there to proceed to Business, But as I Observed that Several of the Rioters were present who had at different times Openly Appeared before the Fort in Arms, and who were Called there to appear as Evidences for Justice Smith; I thought it my Duty to Object to their coming in, which gave great Umbrage to Justice Smith, who has always behaved with great Insolence to me, but was Approved of by Justice Campbell of Shippensburg, who thought I Acted with prudence, and Advised the other Justices to go to a house on the Outside of the Fort and carry on their Examination, which they did Accordingly. Perhaps, also, I have been blamed for detaining Some Arms which were taken from the Robbers in the very Act, Notwithstanding that the Grand Jury of that County (who were Composed of People of the Same Stamp) had found them Innocent; But Surely I cannot be blamed for detaining the Arms of two of the Fellows who took me Prisoner, and who compelled Me to give them Security for £40 for the Delivery of their Arms, which are yet in my Possession, and which I will keep Notwithstanding of the threatenng Messages Still Sent Me, till I have your Excellency's Orders for delivering them up, or the Governor's Receipt for them.

Source and Notes: *Pennsylvania Archives... Commencing 1760*, Vol. IV, Ed. Samuel Hazard, Joseph Severne & Co., Philadelphia, 1853, Google Books, pp. 240-241. A Narrative of Lt. Grant's role in Smith's Rebellion is provided in *Sons of the Mountains*, Vol. I, by Ian Macpherson McCulloch (Purple Mountain Press, 2006).



Detail of Portrait of Gen. John Reid

Picture Source: Wikimedia Commons

**Extracts of Letter from Lt. Charles Grant to Brevet-Lt. Col. John Reid, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.,  
Describing Rebel Firing on Fort Loudoun during “*Smith’s Rebellion*,” Fort Bedford,  
Pennsylvania, Nov. 22, 1765**

Commanding His Majesty’s Forces in the District of Fort Pitt.

Fort Bedford. Novem’r 22<sup>d</sup>, 1765.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> Instant, a man came in from the Country, and told me that there was Three Different Party’s waiting about the Fort, to take Me and Mr. [Sgt. Leonard M<sup>c</sup>]Glashan Prisoners, as they heard we were to March soon; at 7 o’clock at Night, the Fort was Surrounded by a number of the Rioters, who kept firing and hooting the whole night; next day they got more men and encamp’t round the Fort, so that nobody could come in or go out of the Fort, they began next night and kept firing till Day light, when they sent me word that they wanted their Arms to be delivered to the Magistrates. I told them that I did apply to the Justices, but that they refused to take the Arms; at 10 o’clock they appeared to the number of about 100, and fir’d upon all Corners of the Fort, so that the Centry’s could not stand upright upon the Bastions; they kept firing at the Fort to one o’clock, when Mr. M’Dowell came in, and said, if I would let him have the Arms, that he would give me a Receipt, and that those Arms would remain in his House till such time as the Governor would give Orders about them, and that the owners would be satisfied whatever the Governor thought proper to do with them.

As the General wrote to me to give up the Arms when the Governor would desire it, I condescended so much as to take Mr. McDowell’s Receipt, that the Arms would not be delivered up to the Owners, till the Governor would desire it, as the Garrison was much fatigued for want of Sleep for two nights and two days before, owing to the Rioters firing on the Fort. I thought it best to give the Arms to Mr. M’Dowell, as I had no particular orders for carrying them with me. I was not sure when I would have a Reinforcement, but two hours after I settled with Mr. M’Dowell, Mr. [Ens. Peter] Herring [42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.] come with 30 men, but I thought it would not be worth the while to take the Arms again, as they were as safe with Mr. M’Dowell, as if I had taken them to Fort Pitt. I inclosed to you a copy of an Obligation Mr. M’Dowell has from some of their Head men, shews that they have Authority to sett those men to do any thing. James Smith headed those Rioters that fired at the Fort, and headed the three Party’s that were waiting to take me, and to take Mr. Glashan Prisoner.

Source: *Pennsylvania Archives...Commencing 1760*, Vol. IV, Ed. Samuel Hazard, Joseph Severne & Co., Philadelphia, 1853, Google Books, pp. 246- 247.

**Extract of Letter from Capt. William Grant, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt. to Brevet-Lt. Col. John Reid, 42<sup>nd</sup> Regt.,  
Explaining Withdrawal of Lt. Charles Grant's Detachment from Fort Loudoun,  
during "Smith's Rebellion," Fort Bedford, Pennsylvania, Nov. 25, 1765**

Commanding His Majesty's Forces in the District of Fort Pitt.

Fort Bedford, 25<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>, 1765.

Lieut. Grant, with his Garrison, is at last gone to Fort Pitt; I sent Ensign [Peter] Herring with thirty men to take him off from Loudoun, and I find it was very necessary. He was Besieged for two Nights and two Days; the Rioters fired some hundreds of Shot at the Stockades, and in return, one of his Sentries fired only one Single Shot, this Sentry was personally fired at three different times, which at last provoked him to fire a shot; many Balls went through Patton's House, and many Lodged in the Stockades of the Fort. Lieut. Grant had but little Ammunition, which made him Cautious to fire till the Lawless Sooundrels would come close to the Fort, the Villains Encamped at Night round the Fort, lighted Fires; Mr. Grant counted Twenty, and he believes the number of the rioters might Exceed Two Hundred. In this affair, Justice [William] Smith proves himself to be a most Atrocious Scoundre'l, which you will see in a Letter from him to Mr. Grant, which Mr. Grant has inclosed to you, with a Circumstantial Account from Mr. Grant, of every thing that happened since the rioters last broke out, to which I refer you.

Source: *Pennsylvania Archives...Commencing 1760*, Vol. IV, Ed. Samuel Hazard, Joseph Severne & Co., Philadelphia, 1853, Google Books, pp. 247- 248.