

Letter Bk. III ward where they cannot be ignorant that large preparations are making against them. Some of the back-Inhabitants who have escaped from the Ohio whither they had been carried by the Savages report that the Artillery which fell into the Encmy's hands last Summer have been carried up that River & that the French purchase the Men which the Indians have taken from the Frontiers of these Colonies & keep them constantly employed in building Barracks for the Reception & Convenience of the Indian Tribes that have lately come into their Alliance & are to be employed this Summer in harrassing & depopulating these provinces. The Cherokees or Carolina Indians have I hear made great professions of Friendship to the Commissioners that were sent from Virg^a to make a Treaty & enter into a League with them but they will not declare openly in our Favour, or commence hostilities against the French or their Allies till we have an Army able to act offensively & till we have constructed a strong Fort in their Country for the Security of their wives & Children while their young Men act in Conjunction with our Troops, in this the Commissioners promised to gratify them, & Governor Dinwiddie has ordered a Detachment from the Virg^a Regiment on that Service.

I am &c.

[Sharpe to Albemarle.]

5th of May 1756—

My Ld

Brother Will^m has not neglected to inform me how kindly & generously your Ldp interested yourself & how earnestly you endeavoured to do me Service on your Receipt of the Letter which I took the Liberty to address to you from N York & I should be inexcusable was I to let slip this first Opportunity of making my thankful Acknowledgments & of assuring your Ldp that tho your Solicitations had succeeded to the utmost of my wishes yet I could not have been more sensibly affected or more grateful than I am at present. My Brother acquaints me with the Resolution taken to have some Regiments raised from among the Germans in this & the Neighbouring Provinces on a Supposition that those people will readily enlist under Swiss Officers, I cannot venture to say whether such Regiments will be compleated or not but I cannot help thinking that if I had been impowered to raise a Regiment in this Province I should have done it with greater Dispatch than the Swiss Officers will be able to do. I am glad to hear Lord Loudon is appointed to take the Command of all His Majesty's Forces