

Opinion in Enlisting their Servants upon which Subject I expect to be addressed
shall be glad if their Assentment does not lead them to insert such Clauses in the
Supply Bill that is framing as will lay the Upper House or myself under a Necessity
of refusing it. Governor Dinwiddie says he has reason to expect the Commis-
sioners that are gone to the Cherokee & Catawba Nations will engage a very conside-
rable Body of those Indians to be at Fort Cumberland this Spring to assist in
war with such English Forces as should be raised in these Colonies for an Expedition to
the Westward, He says You mentioned that these People were to be allowed British
Pay but as You did not tell him how or from what Fund they were to be paid
he desires me to ask that Question; I presume Your Excellency expects that these Indians
could take that Expence on themselves, but as Governor Dinwiddie desires Your
Answer on that Article I shall be glad to be favoured therewith, & also to know if Your
Excellency could furnish us with any Number of small Arms in case Troops should
be raised here, for I believe we have not more than 300 or 400 Stand at most in
this Province - I am &c

Dear Sir
To John Sharpe Esq: Dated the 2^d of April 1756
Your two Lett^{rs} dated the 7th & 16th of Oct. I had a few Days since the Pleasure to receive
embrace this first Opportunity of making my Acknowledgments for them & returning You my
sincere Thanks for the several Instances of Your Kindness & Friendship therein hinted at.
I rejoice that You was enabled & took such Steps to confute a Report which was entirely
groundless & might have been very prejudicial to my Interest: The inclosed Copy of my
Letter to Governor Dinwiddie on my Return from Fort Cumberland will support what I
writ to You about the same time & will show I presume that Colonel Dunbar never consulted
any of us on the Propriety of marching the Regiments to Phila immediately after the Action
leaving the Frontiers of these Provinces exposed, had he asked my Opinion thereon He
would not I suppose You have obtained my Consent for I thought then as I do now that
there was a wide Difference between marching such an Army as his was then to attack Fort
Duquesne without Artillery or other Stores, & remaining on the Defensive at Fort Cumberland
or any other advanced Post between that of the Ohio, the last in my Opinion would have
been proper & a very prudent Step but the first the Night of Quixotima - in the
Assembly of Pennsylvania did not grant any Supplies upon the Generals Defeat: I never met
the Assembly on that Event but contented myself with laying out the little Money
that was in my hands in the best Manner to secure our back Inhabitants from the
Barbarities which have been severely felt by those of the Neighbouring Colonies &
I have calling the Assembly till I could lay some Scheme or Plan of Operations
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