

Letter Bk. I.
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[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Annapolis 5th of Nov^r 1754.

My Ld

About a fortnight since I took an Opportunity by a Ship sailing from Virginia to acknowledge the Receipt of y^r Ldp's Commission & express my gratitude for the vast Obligation that your Ldp has been pleased to lay me under by your ready favour & Kindness in permitting my Absence from your Ldps Province & the Administration of your Ldp's Government to execute the Commission which His Majesty has been pleased to honour me with. In obedience to your Ldp's Instruction I immediately on my Return from Virginia assembled your Ldps Council & acquainted them with your Ldp's Goodness & indulgence to me & the Honour that His Majesty had been pleased to confer on me. With their Advice I have taken the Liberty to issue Writs for a general Election of Representatives about 3 weeks before the Expiration of the usual Term that a Session has been lately continued. this I was induced the more readily to do from the Consideration that if the old Assembly had been convened there would have been little probability of their doing any thing generous while they would have been expecting in a few Days a Dissolution. But before I can meet the Candidates who are now electing I hope some of the neighbouring Colonies will set them a laudable Example & then I despair not of finding them inclined to shew a generous Disposition & by paying a due regard to your Ldps Recommendation manifest their Duty to His Majesty & their Constituents. In Obedience to your Ldps pleasure I shall leave the Administration of the Government & the Care of your Ldps private Affairs to M^r Tasker in case I should for a short time be absent from your Ldps Province. I propose to be at Wills Creek about the End of next week & if there appears a Probability of effecting any thing with such a Body of Troops as can be drawn together before the severe season sets in I may make a winters Campaign, but if when I consult the Officers, it shall be thought expedient to post-poner an Enterprize against the Enemy till the neighbouring Governments can be persuaded to send us some Reinforcements I will return hither again as soon as I have taken measures & disposed the Troops in such a manner as to prevent the Incursions on our Frontiers this winter of the French & their Indians of whom Governor Morris has just advised me that 60 had been seen on their way & 200 more were expected to go to the Ohio Fort from thence in parties to depopulate & lay wast at all Opportunities the Back Parts of this & the two neighbouring Governments. But that this Scheme of theirs at least has been frustrated I hope to be