

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Letter Bk. II.

Annapolis June 8<sup>th</sup> 1755.

Dr Sr

Your Favour of the 2<sup>d</sup> is just delivered me, & a few Days since I received also a Letter from the General of which I inclose you a Copy; upon the Receipt of a Duplicate thereof Gov<sup>r</sup> Morris has summoned the Assembly of that Province to meet again the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. tho he seems to entertain as small hopes from such a Proceedure as I do of procuring Supplies by the Application that I am about to make to our People the 23<sup>d</sup> You intimate that the General thinks of drawing all the Troops from Fort Cumberland & leaving it to these Provinces to replace them with others or with their Militia I wish I may be able to contribute to the doing either, but indeed I am afraid if the Obstinacy of the Assembly forces me to make the Trial I shall find our Militia Law even more defective than yours. however I have sent peremptory Orders to the Officers to muster & dicipline their respective Companies after their manner & have also issued a Proclamation notifying to the Back Inhabitants what they may expect, & cautioning them to be on their Guard & prepare for their mutual Defence in case of any Attack or Alarm. Pray what Carriage Guns have you to send to Fort Du Quesne if wanted? Some Arms & Ammunition I may perhaps be able to afford be the Determination of our Gentlemen what it will, but as more than the £6000 granted last summer is already expended, nothing remains to purchase Provisions with or to raise any more men for the necessary purposes for which they are required. I have signified to the General what Satisfaction 'twould give me to be enabled to comply with his Requisitions but at the same time hinted to him my Apprehensions that it will not be put in my power. from hence I think you will collect that we shall not want any addition to be made to the 57 suits of Cloaths which were received of Mr Carlile. The promoters thereof met with so many Obstructions & Obstacles in the way of the Subscription that it has been entirely dropt. I am surprized you had not received my last Letter which should have acquainted you when I left the General. I learn that a Detachment of 600 marched the 28<sup>th</sup> of May under the Command of Sr Iohn to open a Road & throw a Bridge over George Creek a Stream that flows into Potowmack at about 10 miles Distance from Wills Creek. The General with the Rest of the Forces have I imagine or will follow them to morrow. The Commandant at Oswego sends advice that 300 French & some Indians in 30 large Battoes passed by that place for the Ohio the 13<sup>th</sup> of May & that 'twas said & expected more would immediately follow.