

Command. I have not been informed in what forwardness the other provincial Troops are or when Gov^r Shirley & Col. Johnson will proceed to Action, but I have received Intelligence that 300 French & some Indians passed by the English Fort called Oswego on Ontario Lake the 13th of last Month on their way towards the Ohio & there is room to beleive that some other Detachments are sent from Canada to the same place. I have nothing farther at present but shall take every Opportunity of communicating to your Ldp what Intelligence I may receive from the Northward or Westward & also of all Occurrences that shall happen in your Ldp's Govern^t I beg leave to present my most respectful Compl^{ts} & to congratulate my Lady & yourself on her Ladyships Recovery which I had the pleasure & Satisfaction to be informed of lately & also to assure your Lordship that I remain with a grateful Sense of your Ldp's favours Y^r &c—

Letter Bk. I.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Original.

Williamsburg June 18th 1755

Sir

Yours of the 8th Curr^t I rec^d from M^r Hunter I have from the General a Letter much to the same Purport of what you enclos'd me, & am of opinion if the General succeeds in taking the Fort at the Ohio, that the Charges attending & maintaining it shou'd be paid by Pensylva^a Maryland & this Colony; & as our Assembly meets next Tuesday I shall endeavour to get them to provide for that Service & hope you will meet Your Assembly in good Temper to do what is absolutely necessary at this Time.

As Fort Cumberland shou'd be taken Care of, will not your People enable you to raise some men to place in that Fort? & I will raise some for that Service. I have wrote to the County Lieu^{ts} to have their Militia in order, to keep Patrolers on the Frontiers to give proper Alarms in Case the French or Indians shou'd attempt any Invasion among our Settlers in the back Country.

I am preparing to send up ten Carriage Guns with all their Appurtenances to be sent to Fort Cumberland & from thence to the Fort on the Ohio Provisions must be properly supplied & I have wrote to Gov^r Morris on that Head, his Letter is enclosed which I beg you to forward by very first opp^{ty} The Delay of our Forces has given the French great opportunity of reinforcing their men on the Ohio; but I am of opinion those they have at the Ohio will be but small to those the Gen^t marches with him, so that I do not doubt of Success but the Season of the Year advances.