

[Sharpe to Shirley.]

Letter Bk. II.

August 29th 1755—D^r Gen^l

I take this Opportunity by a young Gentⁿ one M^r West who is ambitious of serving under your Command to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Fav^r of the 13th together with a Copy of your Lett^r & Instructions to Col^o Dunbar. I presume the Colo Concluding from the Resolutions of the Pens^a Assembly that little was to be expected from either of these Provinces towards carrying on another Expedition to the westward till the Legislature of great Britain shall compell us is proceeding to receive your immediate Commands in the Province of N York. The Provincial Troops that were left to Garrison Fort Cumberland I hear desert daily. near a fortnight since they had reduced themselves to 160, & Gov^r Innes tells me he is not without Apprehensions of being attacked or invested by the French & their Indians, who according to some Intelligence he has lately received have discovered & dug up the Artillery & Stores that Col^o Dunbar buried in his Retreat, & were about to construct some place of Defence at Coll Dunbars Encampment. The Virg^a Assembly has granted £40000 for the service & Gov^r Dinwiddie speaks of raising 1200 men therewith & sending them to build a Fort somewhere near the meadows or just over the Alleganny Hills, but I doubt he will scarcely execute such a scheme for it will require no small number of Men to protect the Frontiers of that Province w^{ch} have been much infested by Indians since Gener^l Braddock's misfortune. The Inhabitants who dwelt in the distant parts of Virg^a on New River & that called Green Brier have all left their Plantations: Our People too have many of them fled to the more populous Parts of the Country tho no Enemy has lately appeared on this side Potowmack River—Beside Capt Dagworthys Company (that followed the Gen^l) which is now at Fort Cumberland we have a Command of 20 on our Frontiers which are supported by a subscription till some Lett^{rs} from England shall determine our Controversies & give me room to meet our Assembly & ask them for Supplies with greater probability of being regarded more than I have hitherto been when I mentioned such a Subject. Wishing you Success & I am

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

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[Augt. 1755]

M Lord

In my Lett^r dated the 23^d of July I gave your Ldp an Acco^t of General Braddock's Misfortune near the Banks of the Monongahela & acquainted your Ldp that I was then pro-