

Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

30<sup>th</sup> of August transmitted by Capt Steuart's Ship—S<sup>r</sup>

Herewith I have transmitted the Acts of Assembly which agreeably to your Desire I had gotten transcribed, & also under a separate Seal the Laws which have been enacted since my Arrival in Maryland: I conceived 'twould be most proper thus to return them in two Volumes as we are yet ignorant what has been his Lordsp's final Determination with respect to the Inspection Law. I think to compleat the sense in the third Section of the Revenue Law of 1704 after the Words "before the Departure of such Ship or Vessel" should have been inserted from this Province, & that all & every Master & Masters of any Ship or Vessells coming into this Province but I could not permit in a Transcript that was to be authenticated such a Variation from the Original to which I recurred. The latest Letters from Fort Cumberland advise us that the Provincial Troops who are left there as a Garrison desert daily it is said that they are reduced to 150 Men, Governor Innes writes that on the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst a Lieut<sup>t</sup> who had been sent out with a party of Men upon the Scout towards the Great Meadows returned & reported "That two of his advanced Scouts having discovered about 50 Indians in the Meadows came running back to the Party, that about a Dozen of the Indians followed very close four of which discovering themselves to be Friends came up to his party with these two Men & advised him to turn immediately back, otherwise that he with all his Party would be scalped for that there were 400 French encamped at Col<sup>o</sup> Dunbar's Camp & had discovered the Stores that were buried there & that they had an advanced Guard of 100 more French posted about a Mile beyond the Meadows that the French were coming this way & that the Indians which were about a hundred more would soon be amongst the Inhabitants" Upon this Alarm the Hospital is removed down to Frederick Town & Governor Innes dispatched an Express to Colonel Dunbar who was proceeding thro Pens<sup>a</sup> towards the Provinces of New-York desiring a Reinforcement from him, I know not what Regard Col<sup>o</sup> Dunbar has paid to his Request but I am apt to think he is still marching to join General Shirley who I conclude from his last Lett<sup>r</sup> reached Oswego about 5 or 6 Days ago, I have been now informed by M<sup>r</sup> Morris himself that what I mentioned to you in my last respecting the Disposition of the Pens<sup>a</sup> Assembly has proved too true, Peruse the inclosed Gazettes & then I think you will not be at a loss to judge how much is ever to be expected from that Quarter, & pretty nearly

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