

Letter Bk. I. been discovered at the Meadows were coming to attack that
 place but as I have not since heard any thing farther on that
 Subject I am apt to think the Governor's fears were in some
 p. 156 sort groundless, tho the continual Desertion of the Garrison
 since the Regulars seperated from them cannot but give him
 great Room for Uneasiness. I am told that Colonel Dunbar
 who is at Phil^a has received Orders from General Shirley to
 join him as soon as possible & I expect that in compliance with
 such Orders the Troops are by this time about to leave that
 place. Late Letters from the Northward I have received none
 but the Gazettes inform Us that General Johnson thought him-
 self too weak to invest Crown Point & therefore was employing
 himself in raising a Fort 20 Miles on this Side thereof till he
 could be reinforced from the N. England Govern^{ts} to whom he
 had made his Situation known & from whom we hope he will
 receive sufficient & timely Succours. General Shirley I appre-
 hend acts only on the Defensive & is busied in erecting a
 strong Fort on the Shore of Ontario Lake whereon it is said
 we have three Vessels of Force, as soon as I receive any
 Intelligence from that Quarter or if any thing of importance
 occurs in Your Lordship's province I shall not fail to send
 Your Ldp immediate Advice thereof & in the mean time I
 remain

Y^r Ldps—

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

15th Sept^r 1755 transmitted by Capt.

S^r

With Duplicates of my last Letters I inclose you the latest
 pens^a Gazette which contains all the News that we have re-
 ceived from the Northward; no account has been brought
 from Fort Cumberland since that which I have already sent
 p. 157 you, from whence I conclude that Affairs continue in the same
 Situation, Colonel Dunbar has not sent thither a Reinforce-
 ment, but is about to leave Phil^a it is said & to proceed towards
 General Shirley. In Virginia they are levying Troops as fast
 as they can & Governor Dinwiddie flatters himself that he shall
 be able to have 1200 Virginians ready to form a Body in about
 two Months to march over the Allegany Mountains & to con-
 struct some place of Defence on the Western Side of them; I
 wish he may see his plan executed, but the frequent Desertions
 from the provincials since they have lost all Dread of severe
 punishment by the Regulars leaving them inclines me to
 entertain some fears that there will be greater Difficulty in
 marching such a Body of Provincials & keeping them together