

than Gove^r Dinwiddie seems to imagine. We are told that Letter Bk. I. several Indians have been lately killed in Virginia by their Ranging Parties & that a Deserter from Fort Du Quesne is come into that Province who says that the French at that Fort are not less than 2000 who are under the Command of one Count Brodie a Scotchman that was himself in the late Action with near 2000 Indians. I have not heard that any Enemy has been seen in this province since Colo Dunbar left us but the people who dwelt beyond Tonalloway Creek where Lieut^t Stoddert & 15 Men have built a Stoccado Fort have I am informed all left their plantations so that the Country is deserted for 30 Miles Eastward of Col^o Cresap's who is also removing or removed down to Conegogeeck where one of his Sons P. 158 inhabits. It has been hinted that Coll Dunbar & many Officers of the two Regiments are on very indifferent Terms with Coll Burton & the late General's Aid De Camps who are also at Phila. & some Paragraphs in the pensilvania paper leaves me no room to doubt of the Fact. As we shall not want frequent Opportunities of Conveyance this Month or two you may depend on my punctuality in advising you of every Occurrence that happens whereby the Interest of his Ldp's or the other provinces can be affected. You will excuse my sending this in an unusual Character which is owing to S^r Jn S^t Clair's being with me on his Way to Oswego & you will I hope beleive me to be with great Respect & Esteem &c.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Original.

Virg^a Williamsburg Oct^r 3^d 1755

Sir

Inclos'd you have a Letter from S^r T. Robinson which came to my Hands Yesterday; According to Your Desire I sent you p^r C^t Montgomerie Mitchels Map of these Colonies.

I congratulate you on the Success of G^t Johnson against the French near Crown Point: I have no Express with the Particulars of the Action, which I greatly expect to confirm the News we hear from the N York Papers.

Lieu^t Gray of the S^o Car^o Company has drawn on me for 60^l S^tr for Pay due as he says for being Brigade Major at Fort Cumbld, we had no Forces there till the Spring, he charges from Sep^r 1754 our Committee will not allow him any Thing as not being on the Establishment; yet if he did that Duty, which I dare say he did, & by report is esteemed a good Officer; in that Case the three Colonies should allow him something as he has been twice plundered by the Enemy & I wrote him to that Effect.