

I am of Opinion the French will reinforce Fort Du Quesne from New Orleans &c on the Mississippi; it's true its a long March, but what will they not do to accomplish the Plan they have so many Years been forming, & if that should be the Case these Colonies will be much distressed this Summer; I can only continue to do every Thing in my Power to protect our Fronts in order thereto we propose building Forts from North to South of this Colony; I must remain in this Situatⁿ till I hear from N York.

The Treaty with Catawbas & Cherokees is at the Press, as soon as printed shall send you a Copy

I remain

Your Excellency's
Most hble Servant
Rob^t Dinwiddie

Governor Sharpe

[Sharpe to W. Sharpe.]

Letter Bk. III

2^d of May 1756—

D^r B^r

Inclosed you have a Duplicate of my last to B^r Iohn, this will be directed to yourself as I am just favoured with your two Lett^{rs} dated the 10th of Ian^y & 19th Feb^y & as I apprehend it makes no difference whether what I write for you both be addressed to yourself or him. That I do not always send my Friends in England as early Advice of every material Occurrence in America as Gentⁿ who reside in other parts of the Continent may possibly do is in great Measure owing to my want of Opportunities of transmitting Letters by the Maryland Ships which are comparatively but few & generally leave us all at one Season; & I cannot get Letters conveyed to & put on board Vessels that sail from other Provinces but at a very considerable Expence as you will judge when I inform you that I have been obliged to pay for Expresses & Letters that I sent or received on His Majesty's Service this last year more than £120 St^s which the Assembly are averse & scruple to repay me, arguing it should be done by the Fines & Forfeitures arising & appropriated by Acts of Assembly for the Support of Govern^t & I know what answer I should be favoured with was I to represent my Case to M^r Calvert & intimate a Desire of being reimbursed by His Lordship: however you may be assured that when any thing of Importance does happen I will not make an Apology of this Sort for not sending you the most early Intelligence—What you say of your having seen a Copy of a Resolution of a Council of War called by Col^o Dun-