

Letter Bk.I. sion very different from true Patriotism or Courage seeming to have entire Possession of their Souls. Beside the Garrison of Fort Frederick we have at present 200 men from the Militia of Baltimore & Prince Georges Counties distributed on this Side that Fort & about Conegochiegh, yet that Settlement is I am advised almost broke up & several hundred Persons have lately retreated thence & retired to the more populous part of the County. Thus My Ld do these Colonies feel the horrid Consequences of each others Remissness, vain must be the Efforts of any single one of them & nothing less than a united Exertion of their Strength can secure any from all the Calamities of an Indian War. to put a Stop to the Incursions & Devastations of these Barbarians they must act in Conjunction & not content themselves with building Forts on their own Frontiers, Let a Body of Men be marched to the Westward & Another Expedition be undertaken by these Colonies before the Enemy have farther strengthened themselves on the Ohio & the Indians as well as their French Conductors will find other Business than that which they have for this twelve month most successfully pursued. But alas this proposition is not likely to meet with our Assembly's Concurrence neither will they be prevailed on to carry on an Offensive instead of a defensive War tho Experience teaches us that the latter cannot avert our Ruin. I have now given Your Lordship a true account of the Situation of Your Ldp's & the neighbouring Provinces & opened to Your Ldp the Prospect that presents itself at this Conjuncture. Much will depend on the Resolutions of our Assemblies who are all sitting or about to meet at this time. I hope for the best from them but confess my Expectations are not very sanguine.

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A Vessel that is to sail next week will bring Your Ldp an Account of what is likely to be done here & 'twill give me the greatest pleasure if I shall be then able to send Your Ldp such an Account as may be agreeable, to do every thing that might afford Your Ldp Satisfaction being the utmost Ambition of your Ldps &c.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

14th Sept^r 1756 transmitted by Capt Scott Duplicates by Capt Sr

Inclosed I send you Copies of all the Laws that were passed at the Conclusion of the last Session of Assembly together with a Duplicate of a few Remarks thereon. You will also receive herewith an Account in the Gazette of the Loss of Oswego together with its Garrison, Guns, Stores, Ammunition