

pretty fully convinc'd the Fort wou'd have been built before this Time; however must look forward & do the best we can; when the three Independ<sup>t</sup> Companies arrive, I think we shall have near 1000 Men, tho' that's much short of what the French threaten us with.

The Plan of the Fort is not yet drawn, as the Ground is not fully fix'd on, being left with discretional Power to the Engineer, when done shall send you a Copy of it. I have from an old Book of Laws, sent you enclos'd a Copy of one relating to the King's Lands; but no report of the Surveyor thereon, if any, I fear it was destroy'd when our Capitol was burned. Lord Howard was not Gov<sup>r</sup> here till 1680 if that, or any Thing else from this, will be of use to you, I shall be glad to serve you, & be assur'd I remain with great regard

Y<sup>r</sup> Excell<sup>s</sup>  
most obed<sup>t</sup> hble Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Rob<sup>t</sup> Dinwiddie

P. S. I shall set out for }  
Winchester about the }  
12<sup>th</sup> of this M<sup>o</sup> }

Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe.

Letter Bk. I.  
p. 26

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

the second of May 1754.

My Lord

In obedience to your Ldps Instructions I have transmitted Copies of all the Laws made at a Session of Assembly begun & held at Annapolis in this Province the 2<sup>d</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1753 & have fulfilled your Lordsp's pleasure by inclosing therewith a few Observations for the more easy reference to any thing new or of an extraordinary nature by any of them enacted. Such a Bill as your Lordship was pleased to recommend in your Instructions for the Naturalization of German Protestants importing themselves into this Province was brought into the Lower House of Assembly in the Oct<sup>r</sup> Session but did not pass through, however these people suffer no great Inconveniences from the want of such a Law, as there is an Act of Parliament in force in England naturalizing all such Foreigners after a few years Residence in any of His Majesty's Plantations. Advising with your Lordship's Agent & Judge of the Land Office about having parcells of Land surveyed in the several Counties & erected into Mannours I was informed that there is not remaining a Tract of Land (unless one in the Lower part of the Eastern Shore that I have a prospect of Discovering & the

p. 27

Barrens) extensive enough to answer that purpose in any part of the province, except in Frederick County near the Frontiers,