

Letter Bk.III Colony; & the other five Companies of that Battalion are to encamp under the command of Col^o Stanwix somewhere near the Western Frontier of this Province. If our respective Assemblies will enable us to raise the Number of men required by His Ldp We hope by this Disposition of them to secure our Frontiers effectually till we know the Success of the Expedition which I doubt not but you know His Ldp is about to undertake. To defend the Frontiers of the Northern Colonies & prevent any Incursions from Canada this Summer His Ldp intends to leave behind him one of the old Regiments a Battalion of the Royal Americans & the N York Independant Companies under the Command of General Webb & to these we expect will be added about 5000 Provincials from the Eastern Colonies. The other old Regiments now on the Continent together with two Battalions of the Royal Americans & a few Companies of Provincials from Boston will receive Orders to embark as soon as His Ldp thinks proper to begin the Campaign Yesterday an Account was brought by some Indians whom we look upon as our Friends that the French are making preparations at Venango & intend to attempt a Fort which the Troops of this Province have been building at a place in the Maps called Shamokin at the Conflux of the two Branches of the Susquehanna River about 100 Miles N W from this place. The Garrison at present consists of no more than 190 Men but it is hoped that if the French have really a Design on it the Weather will prevent their putting it in execution till the Garrison can be reinforced. The Assembly of this Province has been sitting almost without Interruption ever since November last, I beleive at the Request of Lord Loudoun M^r Denny will at length consent to accept a Bill which they have framed for granting a Sum of Money for His Majesty's Service tho it be contrary to the Instructions that the Proprietaries have been pleased to give him. I hope I shall not find myself under the same disagreeable Necessity when I meet our Assembly next week but His Ldp seems to insist on our obtaining Supplies at any Rate & says if the Assemblies should be unreasonable in their Requisitions they may expect to have their Conduct examined afterwards at home & be censured as they shall deserve— I am &c—

[Sharpe to Dagworthy.]

Fort Frederick dated at Annapolis the 30th of March 1757 & dld the next Morning to Colo. Washington—

Sir

You are as soon as possible after you receive this to march to Fort Cumberland with your own Company & as many Men