

Fortunately for Maryland and the adjoining provinces, the French, seeing that the brunt of war was going to be to the north and on the lakes, withdrew all their forces from Fort Du Quesne except a small garrison; so, though some barbarities were perpetrated by small scalping parties of Indians, no serious attack was made. The fall of Fort Du Quesne does not come within the scope of the present volume.

The materials for this volume have been obtained from Sharpe's MS. letter-books; a mass of correspondence with him preserved in the collections of the Maryland Historical Society; the Calvert Papers (among which the capitulation of Washington was found) and the Journals of the Assembly, in whose pages some letters are recorded that were not found elsewhere. Letters not in the Society's collections or the archives of the State, have not been printed. A number of letters from Sharpe to Dinwiddie, which are not in the letter-books, have been published in the Dinwiddie Papers (Richmond, 1883-84). Their dates are:

- 1754. Mch. 3, June 20, July 24, 31, Nov. 12, 13, 15.
- 1755. Jan. 7, 11, Feb. 4, Mch. 1, 10, 29, June 3, 10, 18, July 5, 29, Aug. 25, Sept. 20, Oct. 3, Nov. 22.
- 1756. Jan. 2, Mch. 8, 13, April 28, May 24, June 21, Sept. 2, 8, Nov. 12.
- 1757. April 5, May 18, June 1, 14, July 30, Aug. 3, 18, 26.

The following letters from Morris to Sharpe are printed in the Colonial Records of Pennsylvania:

- 1755. Jan. 12, May 30, July 3, Oct. 7.
- 1756. Jan. 5.

The following letters, referred to in the correspondence, are missing from our collections:

Letters from Sharpe:

- 1753. Aug. 1, 6, to Calvert; 15, Dinwiddie; 16, Hamilton; 22, 23, Calvert; Dec. 26, Dinwiddie.
- 1754. Jan. 11, Calvert; Feb. 10, Mch. 11, April 25, Aug. 20, Dinwiddie.
- 1755. Feb. 17, St. Clair; July 23, W. and J. Sharpe.

Letters to Sharpe:

- 1753. Aug. 29, from Calvert.
- 1754. Jan., Bury; July 5, Robinson; 6, Baltimore; 6, W. and J. Sharpe; 11, Albemarle; Sep. 18, Robinson; Nov., Halifax; 30, Fitch; Dec. 12, Calvert; 31, Robinson.
- 1755. Jan. 7, Morris; 23, Robinson; Feb. 15, Calvert; 25, Braddock; April 7, 16, Calvert; 24, Washington; May 29, June 2, Morris; 2, Dinwiddie; 17, 22, Braddock; 19, Robinson; 22, Orme; 22, Innes; July 3, Morris; 5, 31, Dinwiddie; Aug. 13, Shirley; 13, Innes; 20, Morris; 25, Dinwiddie; Sep. 5, Hardy; 25, Shirley; Oct. 3, Dinwiddie.