

Letter Bk. III them by the Earl of Loudoun or any other Officer whatever. This Bill has for these & about a hundred other Reasons been returned to them with a negative What Scheme they will now go upon I cannot tell nor do I beleive that they themselves yet know. In the mean time to relax their minds after the Toil & fatigue that they have undergone while this Bill was framing they have thought proper to ask what necessity I can have for a Secretary & to insist that if I employ any Gent<sup>n</sup> under that or any other Title to write for me they will compel him to appear at the Bar of their House & to answer all such questions as they shall out of Curiosity or in their great Discretion be pleased to put to him. On My advising the Earl of Loudoun of their Resolution to have our Troops withdrawn from Fort Cumberland he has given me hopes of seeing him here in a very few Days; What good Effect His Ldp's Presence among us will have I know not, but to provide ag<sup>st</sup> all Accidents, I have given orders for four Companies of our militia to march upon the first notice—If I should ever be able to serve the Gent<sup>n</sup> that you was pleased to introduce to me by your last Letter you may be assured that I will readily do so but at present it really is not in my power. With the &c—

Original,

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Philadelphia Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> 1757

Dear Sir

Finding an Express going to you, I have just time to tell you that I have not forgot the good Advice you have often given me, in coming to pay you a visit at Annapolis. I have got over a most severe fever which had very near sent me to the other World, and by the advice of the Doctors I came to this place to take a passage to Lisbon lest I shoud get into a Consumption.

I have many things to mention to you which I shall have the pleasure of acquainting you on Sunday next if the Weather is good. I shall leave this to morrow Tuesday and make small journeys by Baltimore untill I reach you but after a few Days rest w<sup>t</sup> you I am afraid the Cold will drive me southward.

I am with the greatest Regard

My Dear Governour  
Your most obedient and  
most humble Servant  
John S<sup>t</sup> Clair

p. S. I know nothing of L<sup>d</sup>  
Loudouns motions  
Gov<sup>r</sup> Sharpe.