

Letter Bk. III those that want it so well as the Person that is best acquainted with both. I am glad however that some of those you regard & esteem are left behind & I most heartily wish you & them the greatest Success. I am obliged to you for encouraging General Forbes to entertain a favourable opinion of me & of my Desires to forward the Service but I am much afraid that it will not be in my power to confirm it. In short I cannot promise him any men from this Province unless He or General Abercromby will engage to pay them & I have taken the Liberty to tell him as much in the Letter I have now sent. It is well Capt Dagworthy & the Rest of our Officers taught their men to live without Victuals last Summer otherwise they may not have found it so easy a matter to keep them together 6 months without pay in the Winter, how much longer they will be contented to serve on this Footing I cannot tell but lest Accidents should happen I hope some other Troops will be ordered to Fort Cumberland as soon as possible. I wish you had told the General when he was writing to me to get a quantity of Forage laid in at the mouth of Conegochiegh that it will be impossible to get any thing in those Parts without ready money there being more than £2000 still due to the People of Frederick County on Account of General Braddock's Expedition, I will however write to a Trusty Man a Col<sup>o</sup> of Militia who lives in that neighbourhood & desire him to engage as much as he can get at a reasonable price but you must not expect that a Ration will be delivered till the People are well assured that the Cash is at the mouth of the Creek. By the time that our Assembly breaks up it is likely you will be on the Frontiers of Maryland in that Case you may expect a Visit from me but a Journey to Phil<sup>a</sup> is really what I cannot think of, tho I would most readily take a much longer one if I could thereby contribute in the least Degree to the Success of the Expedition you are about to engage in. If you cannot be supplied with any tolerable Wine at Phil<sup>a</sup> I will upon the least Intimation endeavour to get you any quantity that you may want in this Province but it will be out of my Power to send you such Madeira as you had at Fort Cumberland or better that what you commonly meet with in Phil<sup>a</sup> I have a Hhd of Prize Claret at my Command which if it be agreeable to you shall be bottled & sent to Fort Frederick—

[Sharpe to St. Clair.]

29<sup>th</sup> of March 1758.

Dear Sir

Since I wrote to you the 27<sup>th</sup> Inst I have talked with Lieut<sup>t</sup> Shelby an Officer of our Provincials who is well acquainted