

frederick & fort Cumberland; Gen^l Forbes wants that you and I shou'd settle it, if so we ought to begin to coin in time. I think of going towards the Pennsylvania forts so soon as I am done here, but I may receive orders to go by fort Cumberland. I have wrote Eleven hours this day and tired with that & Vexation

I am

Dear Gov^r
Yours &c
John S^t Clair.

Gov^r Sharpe.

[Sharpe to St. Clair.]

Letter Bk. III

M^r Darnalls near Frederick Town the 31st of May 1758.

D^r S^r

M^r Bassett being with me last night when Your Letter of the 28th Inst was dld I communicated to him the Contents of it & he will send the Tools to Colonel Prathers & return thither himself to morrow morning agreeable to Your orders. I hope the General does not depend on the Militia of this Province to garrison Fort Cumberland if he does he will most certainly be disappointed for I am satisfied it will not be in my Power to prevail on a single Company to march thither. Our Lower House of Assembly gave it as their opinion some time ago & desired me to send a Copy thereof to Lord Loudoun that it was no matter what became of that Fort & that a Garrison there could not be of the least Benefit or Service to the People of this Province, they afterwards resolved that they would never on any Account whatever agree to pay or victual any Men that should be posted as a Garrison in that place, & altho neither their opinion nor Resolutions are obligatory yet they have always great weight with the People & will undoubtedly have the greatest on the present occasion. Whenever the Troops that are at Fort Frederick shall be ordered to march I will undertake to garrison it with Militia but I cannot engage for any thing more & indeed I am convinced that if the Companies which I may order thither should think that I shall afterwards require them to pass the North Mountain (which our Assembly calls the Frontier) not a Man of them would be prevailed on to come from home—I am &c

P. S. By Col^o Prather's Return to me he has purchased & sent to Fort Frederick 483½ Bush^s of oats 1028 Bush^s of Indian Corn & 2^T 3. 0. 20 of Hay—