

daily a Reinforcement of the same number, but he knows nothing of an Expedition, I have inclosed your Excellency a Copy of his orders, the other Officers Orders are so stained with Blood, that it is impossible to make out what they are.

Liber J. R.
& U. S.
1753-67.

I am Your Excellency's most obedient and
very humble Servant
Jn^o Dagworthy

[Sharpe to Dinwiddie.]

Letter Bk. III

Annapolis 12th June 1757

Sir

Your Lett^r of the 2^d Inst. I received last night & have this morning advised Capt Dagworthy of what you say concerning his having given a Receipt for the Provisions that were left at Fort Cumberland without noticing therein that the Beef was unfit for use. If he did so before it had been examined he did not act agreeable to the Instructions that I sent him & I cannot account for his Neglect unless Colonel Steven was in hast to march before my orders could be executed. As soon as I receive an Answer from Capt Dagworthy I shall acquaint you therewith, till then I can only say that if the Beef is eatable the Behaviour of both the Officers & men that are at Fort Cumberland has been extraordinary for altho they have been unable to get any Supply from Fort Frederick they have not touched it preferring the Fish & Beans notwithstanding they are from being victualled intirely, with such Food become very unhealthy. I do not recollect nor beleive that I said any thing more to you at Phil^a concerning the Provisions that should be left by your Troops than that the Person who might contract for victualling the Garrison of Fort Cumberland should deliver at Winchester Provisions in lieu of what Your People may leave at Fort Cumberland & he have occasion for This I said not doubting but the offer you made would be readily accepted by the Person that should engage to victual the Maryland Forces as it was an Advantageous one to him, & little imagining that you would expect me or any one else to pay for more Provision than was good or than the Troops which may be ordered to garrison Fort Cumberland this Summer would have occasion for. When I communicated to M^r Ross who has contracted for victualling our Troops Your Proposal he seemed well pleased & nothing has hindered him from sending Provisions to Winchester but the Receipt of such a Return from Capt Dagworthy as I have already sent you a Copy of, Upon what I had said concerning the Provisions that were to be left by Colo Steven at Fort Cumberland M^r Ross declined sending any thither when our Troops marched, since that