

Letter Bk. III Duty obliges me to acquaint you that should the Militia be ordered to Fort Cumberland I do not believe they would march & am apt to think you will be of my opinion when I assure Your Excellency that for several Days together there has been no more than 9 or 10 men doing Duty in this Garrison & am very apprehensive that many more will not come up even as far as this. Ensign Finney of the Pensilv^a Forces marched hence this morning for Fort Cumberland with about 26 men one half Invalids they were left Sick here when Major Wells marched for Rays Town &c

[Sharpe to Forbes.]

F. F. the 21st of Augst 1758.

S^r

In Consequence of the Quere proposed in Your Letter of the 16th Inst I sent an Officer immediately down the country to try the Disposition of the Militia who writes me that about 250 Voluntiers have offerd their Service to go with me & take possession of Fort Cumberland for 3 weeks or a month. If approved of I propose to be there on Friday or Saturday next come Sen'night or any time after that Your Excellency shall appoint. It will necessary for me to have Your Excellency's order to the Commissary for supplying the Officers & Men with Provision likewise a power to purchase some Salt Vinegar & Pepper & to give each man a Jill of Rum a Day. As it will not be in my power to keep these People together after the Expiration of the time agreed upon I am well satisfied Your Excellency will order us Relief accordingly your Packet was delivered to M^r Smith the Commanding Officer at Winchester & sent Express from thence to Williamsburg on Saturday last I am &c.

Copy.

[Forbes to Sharpe.]

Shippensburg 23^d August 1758.

Dear Sir

The Enclosed Letters have given me great uneasiness, as I am sure they will do the same to you; It is Indeed greatly owing to a mistake of my own, or rather my Sickness, that prevented my Writing fully upon this Head to M^r Kilby or M^r Howell, and sending Credit for the Moneys Drawn above the 1500^l Sterling that M^r Kilby had ordered payment for; and I really Imagined that I had not presumed upon his paying any more, except the Difference betwixt the 600^l Sterling, & the 850^l which I Imagined would meet no Stop, having Desired Major Halkett to write so to M^r McAdam, his