

have an opportunity of sending Your Ldp very different Letter Bk. I.
Accounts in the mean time I am My Ld &c

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Fort Frederick the 28th of August 1758.

Sir

Since I wrote to you the 9th of Iuly I have paid a Visit to General Forbes at Carlyle in order to represent to him in a more full & clear manner than I could well do by writing the late Conduct of our Assembly & the present Situation of the Maryland Forces & to prevail on the General to advance them a Sum of Money on the Credit of the Province which he has accordingly done. On my Return hither I wrote to the Gentlemen of the Council & informed them that the General expected the Assembly would at their next Meeting repay him what he had so advanced & moreover raise a Sum of Money to pay off the Arrears that may be due to our Troops at the End of the Campaign. I likewise submitted to the Gentle- p. 371
men of the Council the two following questions viz^t Whether they thought the Lower House would ever recede from the Points they had lately insisted on & agree to raise Money by any other Mode than that which they had proposed & adhered to during the three last Sessions? and 2^{ly} whether they would or would not advise a Dissolution. They were I understand unanimously of Opinion that the Gentlemen of the Lower House would never be brought to offer any other Bill than that which they had lately done & having also advised a Dissolution M^r Tasker has ordered Writs to be issued for a New Election which are returnable the 2^d of Oct^r next but I believe it will not be possible for me to meet the Assembly before the Middle of that Month, & meet when they will I am afraid they will scarcely be prevailed on to raise Money by a Bill that will be unexceptionable unless we shall have received Advice before that time that a Determination has been given at home in favour of the Proprietaries of Pensilv^a agst the Assembly of that Province. I am informed by a Person that is just come hither from Rays Town that the Troops have at length opened a Road from that Place over the Allegany Mountains to a Place called the Laurel hannon which is within about 35 Miles of Fort Du Quesne, that S^r I S^t Clair is making a Ditch round a Stoccade Fort which has been built at this Place & that about 3000 of our Forces are gone on with half the Train of Artillery to take Post there. About 1800 Men remain still with Col^o Bouquet at Rays Town & some Detach- p. 372
ments are employed yet in convoying up the Stores & Provisions. the General has been very ill for some time at Ship-