

Letter Bk. IV was at first intended Orders have been given for opening one from the advanced Post into that which was made by General Braddock, this will probably lengthen the March to  
 p. 8 Fort Du Quesne considerably & indeed it is a question with me whether the heavy Rains which the General says have lately fallen will not raise the Waters of the Yogyogany or Monongahela too high for Carriages to pass or Men to ford it. Nor is it uncommon by what I can learn for Snow to fall on the Allegany Mountains & beyond them in the Month of Novem<sup>r</sup> I hope however that that will not be the Case this Season but that I shall yet have an opportunity before the End of the Year of Congratulating your Ldp on the Reduction of Fort Du Quesne upon which Event the Security of these Colonies do in a great Measure depend & it is much doubted whether the two Neighbouring ones, Pens<sup>a</sup> in particular will be prevailed on if this Expedition proves unsuccessful to make another Effort.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

3<sup>d</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1758. transmitted by Capt Lee, a Duplicate by Capt Johnston.  
 Sir

Herewith I send you Copies of the Depositions which M<sup>r</sup> Ridout transmitted when I was at Fort Cumberland relative to the Passage of some Vessels thro the Sounds or Thorowfares that divide Taylors & Iames's Islands from the Main Land which are all the Depositions that can be procured concerning that matter. I likewise send you Copies of the Journals of the Proceedings in the late Lower House from the time they first met to their Dissolution & you will also receive Copies of the several Acts of Assembly that were made at the last Session. I find you have been informed by M<sup>r</sup> Ridout that agreeable to what I wrote you from Fort Frederick the 28<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>st</sup> I marched thence the 8<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> with upwards of 200 Voluntiers to garrison Fort Cumberland & thereby enable General Forbes to strengthen the Rear of his Army with all the Virginia Forces; You may be assured I was extremely sorry to learn upon my Arrival there that whatever the General might have promised himself when he gave me reason to believe he would move from Raes Town about the Middle of Sept<sup>r</sup> there was not the least probability of his leaving it in a month or six weeks from that time by reason that his Magazines were almost exhausted & it was very difficult to get up fresh Supplies for Want of Waggons. Most of  
 p. 9 the Carriages & Horses that had been taken into the Service & employed ever since the Beginning of the Campaign being