

Letter Bk. IV
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[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Annapolis the 10th of Decem^r 1758. transmitted by Capt Johnson from Petuxent.

Sir

I have already put on board the Ship by which I shall transmit this a Duplicate of the Letter that I addressed to you the 28th of Nov^r Since that time We have received an Account by the Way of Winchester in Virg^a that when General Forbes was on his March from the Post at Loyal-hannon & was within
 p. 16 a few Miles of the Ohio, the French thought proper to carry all their Artillery & Stores from Fort Du Quesne down the River, but before the Garrison moved off it is said they blew up the Fort & set fire to all the Houses that had been built near it as well on the other as on this Side the River. I cannot indeed venture to assure you that this Relation is true because I have not as yet received any such Advice from the General or any Officer under his Command but I am informed that several Persons on the Frontiers of Pensilv^a have received Letters from their Friends at Loyalhannon to the same Purport & upon the whole I do not entertain any Doubt about the Truth of what is abovementioned; if the Enemy have abandoned that Fort I flatter Myself the Indians will not trouble our Frontier Inhabitants this Winter & that effectual Measures will be taken in the Spring to prevent the Enemy's returning to take Possession again of that Country, tho I do not indeed entertain any hopes of seeing the People of this Province interest themselves at all in the Affair. The Assembly is still sitting nor have they yet offered any Thing of Consequence to the Upper House except the Bill for continuing the Inspection Law which I before mentioned to you & to which I have now given my Assent, I understand however that the Assessment Bill is at length brought in once more & now under the Consideration of the Lower House thro which I expect it will be again carried but not by a Majority of more than four or five Voices. Doctor Steuarts Affair is still depending but whenever it comes to a Hearing I have reason to think that the Aldermen's Right of Voting will be established. You may remember that I sometime ago intimated to you that I should be very glad to have it in my Power to confer the Naval Office of Pocomoke on Colo Henry & to make M^r Goldsborough Surveyor General of the Eastern Shore, both these Offices are at present held by M^r Benj^a Young who living in Baltimore County & being therefore
 p. 17 obliged to pay a Deputy reaps little Benefit from the Naval Office, but Colo Henry resides on the River where the Office is kept, I likewise intimated to you that in my Opinion a County Clerks Office would best suit M^r Young & be more