

Letter Bk. III what had been dld to him by Lieu^t Col^o Steven & informed me that the greatest part of the Provisions that were left were on a Review found unwholsome & by his first Lieu^t the Doctor & the Virginia D Commissary judged unfit for food. I advised Gover^r Dinwiddie of this Report immediately imagining that he would have given Orders for such as was condemned to be removed or destroyed, but contrary to my Expectations he insists on our Commissary's Accounting for it as for good Provisions saying that Col^o Steven assured him that the Virginians ate it while they were at the Fort. As our Men will not touch it I cannot order or desire M^r Ross to comply with Gov^r Dinwiddie's Requisition neither indeed do I suppose he would regard any order of mine to do so. I apprehend that Capt Dagworthy & He will desire you to order some impartial Person to examine the Provision which seems to be the only way to prevent Disputes, & if they should I hope you will not refuse to comply with their Request &c—

Original.

[Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg June 28th 1757

Sir

I rec^d Your Letter of the 12th of Iune. As to the Beef deliver'd Cap^t Dagworthy at Fort Cumberland I desire to say no more about; what I wrote in my former Letters was from the Information of Col^o Stephen, & on the Application of the People here I cou'd not say less, or shall I insist on the Beef's being eatable; it was salted last Fall & our Forces had no other Meat. all You agreed to with me was to replace the same Quantity of Provisions at Fort Loudoun, that was deliver'd to Your People at Fort Cumberland, & if any of it was useless, I shou'd be wrong to desire good in its Place; & I think You or myself act in this only for Service of our different Governments, & what I have been press'd to do; but laying aside the Beef till it's more clearly explain'd, I presume there is no Dispute about replacing at Fort Loudoun, the other Species at Fort Loudoun, which I shall be glad was soon done to stop the Clamour of our People. I do not remember You mention'd the Person appointed to victual Your Forces, but that You wou'd order the replacing the different Species at Fort Loudoun, agreeable to what may be rec^d at Fort Cumberland; what Your Forces might have occasion for, I think was not mention'd; but the Quantity remaining & rec^d by Your Officer I think was to be replac'd & as C^t Dagworthy does not complain of the other Species I doubt not You will order M^r Ross to comply accordingly:—Your Men appear to me to be nicer than our People, who liv'd on that Provision all