

shall not trouble you with a Repetition but only add that Letter Bk. IV  
I am &c

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Annapolis the 4<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> 1759.

My Ld

It is with pleasure I now write to inform Your Ldp that very soon after the Reduction of Niagara the Enemy perceiving it would be impossible for them after that Event & after we should have Vessels on Lake Erie to hold any Post on the Head of the Ohio River thought fit to abandon & destroy the several Forts which they had built at Venango, Riviere au Beuf, & Presquisle, & to retire to their Settlement at Detroit, which lies as your Ldp knows between the Lakes Erie & Huron & is said to be a very considerable One, But notwithstanding the Affairs of the French on the Ohio seem to be desperate yet the Indians do still presume at times to annoy our People on their Way to Pittsburg & it is not long since they attacked a Captain's Command that was conveying a quantity of Provisions to Loyal hanning, the Captain & one of his Men were killed but the Indians were at length obliged to retire with the Loss of two or three of their Party. In a Letter which I lately received from General Amherst dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of last month he says "This signal Success (the Reduction of Niagara meaning) added to the other Advantages seems a happy presage of the entire Reduction of Canada this Campaign, or at least of circumscribing the Enemy within such narrow Bounds as will ever after deprive them of the Power of exercising any more Encroachments." It is supposed that as soon as a Vessel can be built at Crown Point large enough to resist those which the French have on Lake Champlain, General Amherst will proceed down the Lake to S<sup>t</sup> Johns, & thence by Land to Montreal; in the mean time he is building at Crown Point a strong Fort capable of containing more than 1000 Men on an Eminence near the Spot where the old Fort stood, which it seems was a very trifling one & therefore the Enemy very prudently abandoned it. An Officer who was with Gen<sup>l</sup> Amherst the 13<sup>th</sup> of last month tells me that the Gen<sup>l</sup> had not then received any Intelligence from General Wolfe but daily expected the Return of some Messengers he had sent to him by Land; there seems to be no Doubt but the French have drawn together for the Defence of their Capital almost the whole Force of Canada which must in Numbers vastly exceed the Troops under the Command of Gen<sup>l</sup> Wolfe & therefore many People look upon the entire Reduction of that City this Campaign as an Event by no means certain it being not judged practicable for Gen<sup>l</sup> Amherst to join M<sup>r</sup> Wolfe before Winter