

Letter Bk. III Garrison's being supplied with provisions which according to the Account of Prisoners the French knew they were in great want of. that 700 French were daily expected at Fort Du Quesne from One which has been built on this Side the Lakes & that as soon as they should come down an Expedition was to be undertaken wherein the Officer who came from the Mississippi was to have the Chief Command & that there was a Train ready for him consisting of Six Cannon & two mortars. I think that part of this account agrees with what some Parties of the Cherokees have lately told us, & I cannot look upon any part of it as improbable; if the Officer who commands at Fort Du Quesne has sent a Party to cut off our Communication with Fort Cumberland I believe they have a Design on that Place, but as our Convoy went from Fort Frederick about a week since, we shall soon hear whether there is a strong Party of the Enemy near Fort Cumberland agreeable to the Drummers Intelligence or not. It gives me great pleasure to find that your Assembly have fallen on so effectual a method to compleat the number of men that they have generously engaged to support. the Example is indeed worthy Imitation & I cannot but congratulate you thereon. I should be much obliged to you for Copies of all the Acts that have been lately made with you for His Majesty's Service or the better Regulation of your militia when you get them from the Printer they may be of use to me when our Assembly meets again which will not be I suppose before the End of the Summer. We have a Report here that the Fleet which was expected from Ireland & that which sailed from N York having joined at Hallifax His Ldp is proceeding on his Expedition. this Account was given by a Person who left N York the 8th Inst. but I know not whether he is esteemed a man of Veracity. We are also told by the Master of a Vessel which is just arrived in Six Weeks from England that the prussians have gained a second Victory but as he brings no papers wherein a second Engagement is mentioned & does not appear to be much of a Polititian his news does not gain Credit. &c.

[Sharpe to Holderness.]

20th of Iuly 1757.

My Lord

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Ldp's Letter dated the 2^d of May & also of a Copy of the Act of Parliament which You said would be transmitted by the Lords Commissioners for Trade & Plantations. As the Orders which I received from the Earl of Loudoun for laying an Embargo in this Province were general I thought it my