

on their Return may be able to give some more particular Informations.

The Method the Assembly concerted for augmenting our Forces has not fully answer'd Expectation, as upwards of 100 deserted from Fort Loudoun in one Week; the dastardly Spirit of our common People, their Ignorance of Arms & cowardly lazy Disposition, makes the raising of Men very difficult, but I am determin'd to make Examples of some of them by Death. Our Press continues employ'd in print^s our Paper Money, that they have not had Time to print our Acts of Assembly, but when printed I shall send them to You.

We have no certain Acc^t of the Fleet &c from Ireland having arrived at N: Scotia, but from different Acc^{ts} from New England it's said they have join'd Lord Loudoun, & I think it's more than probable to be true; it's late in the Year for executing the Grand Plan of Operations, however I dare say L^d Loudoun will proceed on it, & I sincerely wish them Success; its said there are eight Line of Battle Ships at Lewisburg, & many Transports with Men gone up S^t Lawrence, but as there are so many flying Stories, I incline to suspend my Opinion thereon till more certainly inform'd. It is reported here that the Prussians have gain'd a Second Victory but it wants Confirmation.

Cap^t Arburthnott arrived here last Monday & is going to Careen to be ready to convoy the Trade home; I have not yet seen him, but the Time of his sailing from the hereafter inform You, for the Benefit of Your Trade.

I rem^a with great Esteem & Regard
Your Excellency's
most obed^t hble Servant
Rob^t Dinwiddie

Gov^r Sharpe.

[Sharpe to Atkins.]

Letter Bk. III

29th July 1757.

Sir

I am obliged to you for Your Letters of the 12th & 30th of June & 12th Inst which were dld to me a few Days ago by Mr Fell. If the Assembly of this Province had left it to me to cultivate the Friendship of the Southern Indians or to encourage their Service by such Methods as I should judge proper I shoul proceed according to Your Advice & Directions but as the Assembly did long before His Majesty was pleased to appoint you Super Intendant of Indian Affairs appropriate a Sum of Money for the Encouragement & Reward of such of them as should take or destroy any of our