

carried away Prisoners to Fort du Quesne in November last <sup>Letter Bk. I.</sup>  
have made their Escape & are come into Fort Cumberland.  
They made their Escape from an Indian Town & have not  
been at Fort Du Quesne some Months but they say that  
when they were last there the Garrison did not consist of  
more than 150 Men tho it was given out by the French that  
they expected to be joined in the Spring by a large Body of  
Regular Troops & a very considerable Number of Indians  
from different Nations, & that then some Expedition would be  
undertaken ag<sup>st</sup> Fort Cumberland or one of these Colonies.  
that we may be as well prepared for them as possible in Case  
they should think of such an Enterprize I have sent Instruc-  
tions to the Commanding Officers of the Militia in the Fron-  
tier Counties & ordered them to hold their Men always in  
readiness to march & if they should receive certain Intelli-  
gence of the Approach of any considerable Body of the <sup>p. 269</sup>  
Enemy to proceed without Delay to Fort Frederick that the  
Garrison of that Place might join the Troops under the  
Command of Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix & act as he shall think proper to  
order. I have also sent to Fort Frederick a considerable  
Quantity of the Ammunition that Your Ldp was pleased to  
order for the Use of the Province, & if Col<sup>o</sup> Stanwix should  
stand in need of the Assistance of the Militia I shall Myself  
proceed to the Frontiers. We have not received Advice yet  
of the Arrival of the Fleet from Ireland, but we hear that the  
Troops that Lord Loudoun takes from N York consisting of  
upwards of 6000 Men were embarked last Thursday. Colonel  
Stanwix is near Carlyle on the Frontiers of Pensilvania with  
Five Companies of the Royal American Regiment; The Pen-  
silvania Assembly would not suffer any of the Troops in the  
Pay of that Province to be transported to Carolina notwith-  
standing the Earl of Loudouns Orders, & we are told also  
that the Virginia Troops have refused to embark for that  
Colony till they have received the Arrears of Pay that is due  
to them & which is pretty considerable, however as the Vir-  
ginia Assembly have voted £50000 more for His Majesty's  
Service I presume that objection will be soon removed.

With the utmost Respect I am.

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Annapolis the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 1757. transmitted by Capt.  
Witherall & a Duplicate by Capt Hamilton.

Sir

herewith You will receive Copies of the Acts of Assembly  
that were made in Octob<sup>r</sup> last, & also a Copy of the Minutes  
of the Proceedings of the Lower House during that Session. <sup>p. 270</sup>