

June 5th

Since I wrote the above I have receivd your Letters with the several Papers Inclosed, which I will forward if Possible this Afternoon, but I doubt if time enough to meet Johnson, as I am just now informed that he most probably left home for Onondaga before my Express reached him, however will desire M^r Shirley to send them after him by Express.

I think it is very clear if we do not Act Vigorously and Exert ourselves in all Quarters the French will secure great part of the Indians, and I fear the whole of them to the Southward, to Prevent which I could wish the Southern Colonys would undertake another Expedition to Fort Du Quesne, or any other Post on the Ohio, as should be Judged most proper if preperations were made for such a Service, I should hope Lord Lowden on his Arrival, when he might have the state of things laid before him particularly with respect to the Indian Interest, would have, no difficulty of joining the Provincials with a sufficient Body of Regulars, such a scheme Vigorously prosecuted appears to me to be the only one that can secure to the English the Fidelity of the Southern Indians, and indeed the Settlements and Country of the Southern Colonys; if this year be lost the french will be strongly Fortified and make it very difficult for us to remove them from those Waters do spur your Neighbours to get a Body of men ready against the Commander in Chief arrives.

The Jersey Assembly have not only passed a Prohibition Act, but have Prolonged it for three months from the first of August, if the Legislatures of yours and this Province pass Laws for the like purpose, which I hope you will approve of, and get your Assembly to do, I shall recommend it to mine on their Meeting, for however late it be I am of opinion the french will be greatly distress'd if we persevere in stoping the Exportation.

As I have not time to Communicate the Indian Information to Governors Sharpe and Dinwiddie I shall be obliged to you to forward it to them.

I am &c
Cha^s Hardy

P. S. June 8th
Yesterday the Packet arrivd
after a Passage of 8 Weeks Col^o Webb
Came in her who takes the Command
of the Forces till Lord Loudens Arrival
who we may expect with the Troops daily.