

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Fox.]

2^d Nov^r 1756.R^t Hon^{ble}

When I did myself the honour to write the 28th of Oct^r I acquainted you that in Consequence of an Act of Assembly passed for that & other purposes Orders were given to a Merch^t in London to purchase & ship a quantity of Ammunition for the use of this Province, in Case therefore M^r Iⁿ Buchanan our Merch^t should be unable to ship Ammunition at this time on Acco^t of an Embargo I hope you will on his making application be pleased to grant him an Order for exporting 3000 lbs of Powder & an equal Quantity of Ball or Lead to & on Acco^t of this Province I am &c.

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[Sharpe to Calvert.]

3^d of Nov^r 1756. transmitted by Capt Noel.S^r

In my Letter dated the 16th of Oct^r I acquainted you with the Issue of our last Session of Assembly & sent you therewith a Copy of the Act that was with a good deal of Difficulty at length obtained for His Majesty's Service. I now transmit Journals of the Assembly's Proceedings during that Session which I think will confirm what I observed in the first part of my Letter dated the 5th of Oct^r tho the Journals do not discover what means were used & what Tricks played to postpone & obstruct Business. At one time twas given out & confidently asserted that Oswego was not lost, then instead of making immediate Provision for raising Men for the Royal American Regiment the State of the Province must be enquired into by Way of Amusement, afterwards I must be addressed as it were to recommend it to them to appropriate a Sum of Money for purchasing Arms & Ammunition that they may thence take Occasion to insert such Clauses in the Bill for His Majesty's Service as they knew would not be assented to, & to make extravagant Demands on His Ldp. Understanding with what Design such Addresses were presented I avoided every thing that could possibly afford them room for beginning a Dispute or for inserting their favourite Clause in the Bill that was framing. however you will see by their Resolves what were their Inclinations & how eagerly they embrace all Opportunities of saying & doing whatever they think will be disagreeable. I have long been persuaded that nothing to Effect will be ever done by these Colonies unless an Act of Parliament is made for obliging them to contribute their respective Quotas