

Letter Bk. I.
p. 259

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

23^d of Feb^y 1757 at Philadelphia & transmitted by the Packett
from N York—

Sir

In my last dated the 4th Inst. I informed you that the Earl of Loudoun had thought proper to require my Attendance here at this time when he expected the Governors of Virg^a & the Carolinaes as well as of this Province would meet & have an Interview with him. Agreeable to His Ldp's Desire Gover^r Dobbs M^r Dinwiddie & Myself are come hither & have been some Days expecting His Ldp from Boston whither he went immediately on his leaving Albany to lay as is supposed his plan of Operations for the next Summer before the Governors or Legislatures of the five Eastern Colonies & to prevail on them if possible to grant him such Supplies & Assistance as they can respectively afford & as His Ldp thinks he might stand in need of. What were His Ldp's propositions to them or his Expectations from them We know not but it is said that they have come readily into His Ldp's Measures. The Assembly of N York is now sitting & it is presumed that they will not shew less Inclination to support His Ldp & promote His Majestys Service than the New England Gentⁿ have done but no Body ventures to entertain such sanguine Expectations of the Colonies that lye to the Southward. The Assembly of this Province has been some time & is still sitting to very little purpose being resolved as it should seem to give up the Province to the Enemy rather than provide for its Defence by such a Bill as Governor Denny finds himself at Liberty to accept. Inclosed I send you a Copy of the Minutes of their late Proceedings which are just published & by what I can learn they
p. 260 are now acting over the same Part that these Minutes give an Account of. M^r Norris a Quaker their Speaker & M^r Franklin one of their Members are about to embark for England to represent the unhappy Situation of the Province to the Parliament, to exonerate the Assembly as they say of the Blame that has been unjustly thrown on them & to expose the Iniquity (according to their Language) of Proprietary Instructions.

To enable their Ambassadors to execute this important Trust they have given them £2000 & whatever farther Sum they may on their Arrival in England stand in need of or require is to be advanced that Matters may at length be brought to a final Issue & all Occasions of Dispute hereafter be removed by an Act of the British Legislature. I need not tell you after what I have often observed that this Step of the Pensilvanians will be much applauded in Maryland & indeed I shall not be surprized at our Assembly's asking why they may not have