

Original.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

New York March 2<sup>d</sup> 1757.

Sir

A I have received His Majestys Orders to make preparations, for vigorous & Offensive Operations, in the ensueing Critical & important Campaign,

This obliges me, to recommend it to you, to lay an Embargo, on the Port or Ports of your Government, least I should not be able, to carry that Plan to the extent, that the importance of it requires.

As you must be sensible of the necessity of secrecy, in operations of this nature, I cannot doubt, that you will Excuse, my not laying the Plan before you.

This measure I see necessary to recommend to Virginia, and all the Governments northward of it, that His Majestys Services may not be disappointed, of a Supply of such Ships or Vessels, as may be necessary for carrying this important Service into Execution, so essential to the welbeing of His Majestys Colonies.

From the present situation of Affairs, and the advanced Season, there has not been time, to concert this measure with the different Governments; but I have the Satisfaction to Acquaint you, that in Consequence of this recommendation, an Embargo has this day taken place in the port and Ports of this Province; and I can have no doubt, from your Zeal, that in support of the common Cause, your Province will follow so good an Example. I must therefore desire you will send me by the return of this Express, an account of the Ships and Vessels in your Ports, and their Tonnage, fitt for Transporting Troops; that I may give you the earliest notice, of what part of them, will be necessary to take into His Majestys Service.

And I must further desire, that this may not be made Publick till the Embargo is actually laid on.

I am with great regard,

Sir

Your most Obedient  
Humble Servant  
Loudoun—

Letter Bk. I.  
p 261

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Phila<sup>a</sup> the 23<sup>d</sup> of March 1757 & transmitted by M<sup>r</sup> Franklin in the Packctt.

My Lord

In a Letter which I sent by the N York Packett the 23<sup>d</sup> of Feb<sup>y</sup> I desired M<sup>r</sup> Calvert to advise your Ldp of my being