a Supply of Seamen to recruit the Ships under my Command. We have not the least prospect of getting men here; Several Ships are at this time greatly short of Complement; and we must naturally expect that many of our People will drop off this winter. For these Reasons, I most earnestly request of you to raise as many Seamen and able Bodied Landmen, as you possibly can, and to send them hither with the utmost Dispatch, as I shall exert my best Endeavours to get the Squadron to Sea very early in the Spring. I am

Your most humble Servant Colville

Northumberland at Halifax 14th Novem^r 1757

Northumberland Terrible Kingston Oxford Arc en Ciel

Sutherland Defiance Somerset Hawke Sloop.

Honble Horatio Sharpe, Esq, &c, &c,

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Stanwix.]

15th Nov" 1757.

Sir

By a Letter which I received yesterday from the Earl of Loudoun I find that His Ldp has been pleased to send you orders to garrison Fort Cumberland with other Troops in Case the Assembly of this Province should adhere to the Resolution that they had made with regard to that place when I last writ to His Ldp & Yourself. As they have not yet thought proper to give any answer to a Message which I sent them upon the Receit of their Address dated the 19th of Octr of which I inclosed you a Copy, I can only add to what I then told you that they have at length prepared a Bill in Consequence of their Resolve. As soon as this Bill is rejected by the Gent" of the Upper House which I beleive it will be soon after it is offered, I shall communicate the Contents of His Ldp's last Letter to the Assembly & insist on their preparing another Bill agreeable thereto. As I find that the Agents did not till a few Days ago issue the three months pay that became due to Capt Dagworthy's Company, & that two months pay was also issued at the same time for the other four Companies there will not I hope be any Danger of the Men's deserting for want of Pay at least on this Side Christmas, & as they have been very lately cloathed & are supplied with a quantity of Provisions in Consequence of your orders to Mr Ross I shall