

suffer the Assembly to delay Business & protract the Session Letter Bk. III  
as long as they please in hopes that His Ldp will be able to undertake a Journey to Annapolis before matters are brought to an Issue between us & that his Presence here will have a good Effect. As soon as the Fate of the Bill now depending shall be determined I will order three or four Companies of Militia to hold themselves in readiness to march on the first Notice & if the Lower House of Assembly shall after all means have been tried to bring them to Reason absolutely refuse to support any Troops at Fort Cumberland I will make Capt Beall a Major of Militia & oblige as many Men to serve under him as may be necessary for the Defence of Fort Frederick & the more immediate Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants, this Step will make the Assembly sensible that I can even without their Assistance or Consent oblige the Militia to do the Duty or Service that they intend the 300 Men for & that I am on my Part resolved to exert the Power with which I am to their great Mortification invested. It is true I cannot instantly punish every Person that shall refuse to march but I can order him to be prosecuted before the Judges of our Supreme Court & I am throughly satisfied that they will not suffer such a one to escape with Impunity & tho I have no Power to levy Money without the Consent of Assembly to pay any of the Militia that shall march in Obedience to my Orders yet I can impress as much Provisions or other Necessaries for their Use as they shall stand in need of. I apprehend that you will not order any Troops to march to Fort Cumberland before you shall receive another Letter from His Ldp or farther Advice of our Assembly's Proceedings, I shall embrace every opportunity of writing to you untill the Affair is finally determined & communicate to you every particular that it might be expedient for you to be acquainted with. The Complement of Men which was to be raised here for the Royal American Regiment being made up Lieut<sup>t</sup> Campbel has this Day left us in order to proceed with his Recruits to Phil<sup>a</sup> In justice to this Gent<sup>n</sup> & Lieut<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Beane whom he succeeded I think it is incumbent on me to declare that they endeavoured to behave during their Residence among us in such a manner as to give general Satisfaction & that I beleive they have succeeded in such their Endeavours to the utmost of their wishes.  
I am &c.

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

15<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1757.

My Ld

As the Lower House of Assembly have not yet thought proper to take any Notice of a Message that I sent them the