

one containing the Information that was a few Days ago given to Sr I<sup>n</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Clair Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup> Haldiman & Myself by a French Cadet who was taken near Fort Cumberland the Tenth Inst. & also by a French Deserter that came & surrendered himself the same Day I have sent a Copy of it to the Earl of Loudoun & have committed the Prisoner to the Sheriff's Custody till I can receive his Orders concerning him.

There are now in this City five Companies of the Royal American Regiment in Number near 500 who are quartered on the Inhabitants indiscriminately. As soon as I was advised of their being ordered hither I gave the Corporation Notice & recommended it to them to provide for their Reception. Upon this they presented a Petition to the Assembly for Assistance but having unhappily failed of Success they came to a Resolution among themselves to provide for the Troops in the best manner they could at their own private Expence in Expectation however that the Assembly will some time or other reimburse them.

I am with the greatest Sincerity

Sir,

your much obliged and most  
Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Hor. Sharpe.

Annapolis 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1757.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

Copy.

New York, Dec<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1757.

Sir

I Had this day the favor of Your Letter, by Express with the Bill prepared by the Lower House, and the Address from both Houses to you.

As I had seen an Extract of the Military part of that Bill before, I am ready to give my sentiments on it; and am Clearly of opinion that had it passed into a Law of the Province it would have been a direct infringement of the King's undoubted prerogative, and as such, was very wisely Rejected by the Upper House. At the same time I am willing to believe that the Assembly had not Considered it in that Light, or they would never have framed it in that manner; nor had they Considered that Right of the King of Commanding His Subjects in Arms, which is a Right undisputed every where, or they would never have Disputed the power of His Commission to have marched the Troops raised by them, for the Defence of His Dominions, even out of your Province, which I do not understand I have done, with regard to them, which was to Fort Cumberland, from the best Accounts I have been able to procure; but that does not Come to be the Question;