

[B. Hands to Sharpe.]

Liber J. R.  
& U. S.  
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Sir

On Tuesday last I received the Honour of your Excellency's verbal Commands by Lieutenant Forty to enquire of Captain Peregrine Browne whether himself and the Company of Militia under his Command would march pursuant to your Instructions given to him, and that I should transmit to your Excellency his Answer by an Express, I immediately wrote to him and therein signified your Pleasure this Morning he came here, said he should have wrote before but yesterday was appointed for him to meet his Company and receive their final Resolution, which he says is that they will not march (8: or 10: excepted) he complains much that the Influence of those whose particular Duty it ought to have been to have excited the People to a due Obedience to the Law was wanting, and that they were practised on by others not to march of which he says he hath acquainted your Excellency by the inclosed Letter, he begs of me to ask if you charged him with any Letter for Mr Richard Lloyd. he says he thinks you did, but thro' some unknown Accident he cannot find it, and is afraid some invidious Reflections may be cast on him for its being not delivered: by every Thing that I have heard, I truly believe that Brown would very willingly have marched, and that he did with becoming Spirit urge every Argument in his Power to persuade the People thereto: I am your Excellency's very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Chester Jany 20<sup>th</sup> 1758

B. Hands

[Sharpe to Stanwix.]

Letter Bk. III

22<sup>d</sup> of January 1758D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup>

I had yesterday the pleasure to receive your Letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst together with two from the Earl of Loudoun. As I could not entertain the least hopes of the Assembly's falling upon a different Plan from that which they pursued during the late Session till I should be able to communicate to them His Ldp's Answer to their Address & his opinion on the Bill which they desired me to send him a Copy of, I found myself obliged to prorogue them to a longer Day which by the Advice of the Council is the 6<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>y</sup>. I am not entirely without hopes that the Gentlemen of the Lower House will be then prevailed on to comply with His Lordship's Requisition, tho indeed my Hopes are not very sanguine, on the contrary I am afraid that altho they may to save Appearances wave their objections to His Ldp's having the absolute Disposal or Command of such Troops as they may propose to support yet that they will take effectual Care to clog any Bill they shall