

Liber J. R.  
& U. S.  
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[Sharpe to Lloyd.]

Annapolis 25. of January 1758

Sir :

You will easily guess that I was surprised to learn from your Letter of the 18: Instant that Mr. Hands had wrote any such Letter to Captain Brown as you mention when I assure you that I had never desired him to do so, or to concern himself after any manner whatever with the Militia of your County. however I find by a letter which I have received also from Mr. Hands as well as by yours that he did call on Captain Browne to give him a positive Answer whether he should march or not, but I find at the same time that his interfering so far was intirely owing to a Mistake of Mr. Forty, and not to any Forwardness or Error of that Gentleman himself. I thank you for acquainting me so freely with what had happened, and assure you that I should have wrote to you with the same Freedom, if your Conduct on all Occasions had not been such as I well approved of. I am very sorry Captain Brown should be still unable to persuade his Men to march to the Frontiers in Obedience to my Orders, and I am more concerned that he should have declined certifying to a Magistrate the Names of such as refused to march when he had my peremptory Orders to do so. I have not sealed the inclosed that you may see what Answer I have given to Captain Brown's last Letter, and I hope it will have its proper Weight, but if the Captain should for Fear of incurring the Censure of a few popular Men or to curry Favour with those that he has a Right and ought to command still decline to return to a Magistrate the Names of those Men that refuse to march, I must desire you to return them or to see that they are returned or certified by some other Field Officer, that the Law may have its Effect. I need not point out to you the ill Consequences that would necessarily follow was I to connive at his Company's Refusal to obey them; the only way to prevent them is to insist on Captain Brown's Compliance, and notwithstanding what has already happened I persuade myself that when you have talked with the Captain again and delivered him my Letter he will shew a proper Spirit and act with the Resolution becoming a Gentleman in his Station. I am &c.  
To Col. Richard Lloyd. H: S:

[Sharpe to Browne.]

Annapolis 25<sup>th</sup> January 1758

Sir

I am sorry your Letter of the 18: Instant should have made it necessary for me to add any thing to the Instructions I have