

Letter Bk. III to enumerate the objections that lye against the mode of Taxation proposed by our Lower House of Assembly & which they are resolved to adhere to, but I have sent M^r Calvert a particular account of every thing that hath passed between the two Houses & between the Assembly & myself on this occasion that in Case any one should desire to know to what it is owing that no Supplies have been granted by this Province as well as the neighbouring ones towards carrying on the operations of the Campaign he might be able to give a proper Answer. As the Lower House were determined to grant no money otherwise than on their own Terms so were they resolved if possible to put it out of my Power to protect the People committed to my Care without the Supplies that I had asked of them, & therefore altho it has been heretofore no uncommon thing with us to decry & discredit the Soldiery & to insist that the most natural & easy way of Defending the Province would be by obliging the Militia to serve in Arms yet no sooner did the Assembly find that I intended to have Recourse to that Method than they Remonstrated against it as grievous & oppressive & used their utmost Influence to discourage & dissuade the Militia from obeying my orders. These Proceedings of theirs will I am afraid make an ill Impression on the minds of many of their Constituents & I expect that a great many of those that may be ordered to march & serve in Arms on the Frontiers during the Summer will either refuse to move or behave afterwards in a very refractory manner.

Original.

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Winchester May 28th 1758Dear Gov^r

I have this afternoon received a Letter from Col^o Bouquett, acquainting me that Col^o Byrds Reg^t & Col^o Armstrongs March from Carlisle the 29th for Fort Loudoun, They are to be joined the 4th or 5th at Shippensb^e by 5 Comp^{ys} of Col^o Washington's Reg^t and one Comp^y of Artificers from the 2^d Reg^t

I have heard nothing from M^r Pres^t Blair about Arms &c. But I am doing all in my Power to extricate myself out of many difficulties. I shall send to Col^o Prathers on Thursday for the arms and some Tents I expect from Carlisle. I must beg you will make my Compl^{ts} to M^r Bassett and tell him to be at Col^o Prathers the 2^d of Iune and to bring the Entrenching Tools to that place, He is to go to Shippensb^e with them to be under Col^o Bouquet's orders and the Comp^{ys} of Col^o Washingtons will be at Connegoee that day and serve