

arm'd Vessells, which the Enemy had upon it, and which Gave them a superiority over our Boats & Batteaus, I accordingly Caused Vessells to be built for the purpose, which having been finished & arrived here the 11th Inst. I set out the very Evening of that day with a Detachment of the Army & proceeded with the whole in search of the Enemys Vessells, three of Which ours came up with & drove into a Bay where the Enemy themselves Sunk & ran them on shoar; the fate of the fourth is not yet known, but whether or not she be taken or Destroyed, we are now not the less masters of the Lake, and had the Weather permitted, nothing could have prevented the Attempt of penetrating into Canada but the Winds while I was out have proved so obstinately contrary and the season already so far advanced, that I have been Compelled to Return to this place where I arrived with my Detachment Yesterday afternoon.

I am with great regard;

Sir

Your most obedient Humble Servant

Jeff Amherst

His Excellency Gov^r Sharp

Original.

[Amherst to Sharpe.]

New York 21st February 1760

Sir

With His Majesty's Commands for the Reduction of all Canada, received last Night, I likewise had the Copy of Mr. Secretary Pitt's Circular Letter to the Northern & Southern Governors of the 7th January last, the Original of which goes Enclosed, and whereby You will See that His Majesty having Nothing so much at heart, as to Improve the great & Important Advantages gained the last Campaign in North America, and, not doubting that all His Faithfull and Brave Subjects there, will Continue most Chearfully to Co-operate with, and Second to the utmost, the large Expence and Extraordinary Succours, Supplied by the Kingdom of Great Britain for their preservation & future Security; And His Majesty Considering that the Several Provinces, from Pensylvania Inclusive, to the Southward are well able, with proper Encouragements, to furnish a Body of Several Thousand Men, to join the King's Forces in those Parts, for some Offensive Operations against the Enemy; And His Majesty not Judging it Expedient to Limit the Zeal and Ardor of any of His Provinces, by making a Repartition of the Force to be raised by Each respectively, for this most Important Service, He (M^r Secretary Pitt) is Commanded to Signify to You the King's pleasure, that You