

the Governor to wave the Right of nominating Militia Officers, Letter Bk. I.
 at least I am sure that every Person in this Province & I beleive in all the Neighbouring ones is convinced that the Right which the Pensilvanians make such a Stir about gives the Governors very little weight or Influence in Elections. I have not received any Letter from the Earl of Loudoun since he returned from Halifax neither do I hear how the Troops that are under His Lordship's Command to the Northward are at present employed. By two French Deserters that came into Fort Cumberland about a Month ago we are told that there were at that time no more than 400 Men in Garrison at Fort Du Quesne but they were well provided with Ammunition & Provisions having lately received very large Supplies of both from the Mississippi. If this Account of the Deserters is to be depended on I presume the Enemy will not make any Attempt on Fort Cumberland or any other of our advanced Posts this Season but we must expect that a few of the Frontier Inhabitants will at times be cut off by their Indian Parties let our Rangers be never so vigilant. This will be p. 314
 delivered by M^r Wolstenholme in whose favour M^r Hanbury has so often made Application to you. I understand he goes to England to procure some Gov^t Commissions not doubting but M^r Hanbury if he is really desirous to serve him can get him some advantageous Contract.

[Loudoun to Sharpe.]

Copy.

New York, October 16th 1757.

Sir,

On the 13th I had the favor of yours of the 1st Instant, As to your Quære about what Troops I shall Quarter in Your Province this Winter, that is a Point I have not yet been able to settle, nor shall not, till some further Intelligence, which I daily Expect, Arrives of the Enemy's Motions; at present I think I shall have very few Troops, perhaps not more than the four Independ^t Companies, and Recruiting Parties; but of this I shall Acquaint you, as soon as I Arrive at Albany, for which place I propose to set out to morrow.

From your Letter it does appear that the point of Quarters is not well understood; Quarters the Troops have a right to Every where, & at all times; In time of War the number to be Quartered in any place must Depend on the Exigencies of the Service, of which the General can be the only Iudge, as it must Depend upon the plans he has to Execute, or the Intelligence he has of the Enemy's Intentions, so that Quarters can never be so Settled in time of War, but that they may be subject to Changes Every hour, According as the General shall Iudge it Necessary.—