

Govern^t however as I have used my utmost Endeavours to Letter Bk. III
serve you I hope you will take them in good part & beleive
that I am &c.

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

20th Oct^r 1757

My Ld

I am sorry to inform Your Ldp that the Garrison of Fort Cumberland is in great want of Provisions while the Assembly of this Province is determined to grant no farther Supplies for the Support of any Troops that are or may be posted at that place. As soon as I was advised by Capt Dagworthy that the Provisions which had been laid in for the use of the Garrison were nearly expended I communicated the same to the Assembly & desired them to empower our Agents to send the Troops an immediate Supply: instead of complying with my Request the Gentⁿ thought proper to send me the inclosed Answer & to resolve that they would never make the least provision for the Support of Capt Dagworthy or his Command while they continue at Fort Cumberland whither your Ldp was pleased to order them. I have in my Reply endeavoured to convince them of the Impropriety or Absurdity of such an unwarrantable Resolution, but they are not to be moved by any thing that I can urge, on the contrary they have resolved likewise that the Troops which are at present in the pay of this Province shall be forthwith reduced to 300, & that they shall after such Reduction be no otherwise employed than in ranging just beyond our Frontier Settlements. This being the Case I must intreat your Ldp to send Col^o Stanwix some Orders about Fort Cumberland as soon as possible, our Troops will not I am afraid be kept together after the Assembly's Resolution is made known to them, indeed those of them that are at that Fort will unless they receive a speedy supply of Provisions be obliged to abandon it for want of Food. It is a Doubt with me whether the means which the House of Burgesses propose for raising a Supply for the Support of the 300 men abovementioned will be agreed to by the Gentⁿ of the Upper House of Assembly should they not I shall order two or three Companies of Militia to march for the immediate Defence of Fort Frederick & the Frontier Settlements & order the officers of the several Companies that are at present in the pay of this Province to deliver to Col^o Stanwix or the Officer Commanding at Carlyle such of our Soldiers as are enlisted generally for His Majesty's Service & are fit to serve in the Royal American Regiment. Tho I should have no reason to object to any part of the Bill which our People are