

Letter Bk. III preparing for the Support of 300 Men except that Clause of it which is to restrain the Men's Service to Fort Frederick & the Frontier Settlements, I am inclined by Your Ldp's Letter of the 13th June to think that I ought to reject it as encroaching on His Majesty's Prerogative, If that is your Ldp's opinion I shall refuse it without any hesitation, & perhaps such a Step may have a good Effect.

[Sharpe to Stanwix.]

21st Oct^r 1757—

Sir

Since I received Capt Dagworthy's Letter of the 6th Inst I have been informd that the Cherokees who were then at Fort Cumberland are returned home upon receiving Intelligence that the French have begun to build on the Hogohegee or Cherokee River. This has releivd Capt Dagworthy from the Anxiety that he seemed to be in upon Account of those Indians & he will not I presume be visited by any more of them while he remains at Fort Cumberland. He has I find supplied this party with several Things that they stood in need of hoping I should be able to procure him an Allowance for the same, but as our Assembly will not be prevailed on to appropriate any Sum generally for the Service or use of our Indian Allies it will never be in my Power to reimburse him. The Party of Cherokees that were here last Spring received a Present to the Value of £300 from this Govern^t just before you obtained one for them from Pensilvania & whenever any of them shall kill an Enemy Indian & apply to this Govern^t for a Reward Our Agents are obliged to pay them £50 or send them Goods to that Amount, which is all that our People will ever do for their Encouragement—As soon as Capt Dagworthy informed me that the Provisions which had been laid in at Fort Cumberland were nearly expended I communicated the Contents of his Letter to our Agents & desired them to order him a fresh Supply but as they had no Money left in their hands I was afterward obliged to address myself to the Assembly & to represent to them the necessity of making immediate Provision for the farther Support of the Troops under Dagworthys Command. Inclosed I send you a Copy of their answer to which I have made a Reply enforcing my first Message; but I think they are obstinately determined never to grant the smallest sum for the Support of any Troops that shall be ordered to Fort Cumberland hereafter nor for the support of any that are now there. They insist likewise that the Troops which are at present in the Pay of this Province shall be forthwith reduced to 300, & these 300 shall they