

At a Council held at the City of Annapolis, on Saturday the 14. Day of May, in the seventh Year of his Lordships Dominion Annoque Domini 1757:

Lib. J. R.  
& U. S.  
p. 180

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq<sup>r</sup> Governor.

The honourable Benjamin Tasker Esq<sup>r</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Cha<sup>s</sup> Hammond, & Benedict Calvert Esq<sup>r</sup>

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Letters.

Whitehall 4: February 1757:

S<sup>r</sup>

The King having nothing more at Heart than the Preservation of his good Subjects, and Colonies of North America has come to a Resolution of acting with the greatest Vigour in those parts the ensuing Campaign, and all necessary Preparations are making for sending a considerable Reinforcement of Troops, together with a strong squadron of Ships for that Purpose, and in order to act offensively against the French in Canada.

It is his Majesty's Pleasure that you should forthwith call together your Council and Assembly and press them in the strongest manner to raise with the utmost Expedition, as large a Number of Provincial Troops as may be, for the Service of the ensuing Campaign over and above what they shall judge necessary for the immediate Defence of their own province and the Troops so raised do act in such Parts with the Earl of Loudoun or the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces for the time being shall judge most conducive to the Service in General, and the King doubts not but that the several Provinces truly sensible of his paternal Care in sending so large a Force for their Security, will exert their utmost Endeavours to second and strengthen such offensive Operations against the French as the Earl of Loudoun or the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces for the Time being shall judge expedient, and will not clog the Enlistments of the Men or the raising of the Money for their Pay &c.. with such Limitations as have been hitherto found to render their service difficult and ineffectual, and as a farther Encouragement I am to acquaint you that the raising of the Men, their Pay, Arms, and Cloathing will be all, that will be required for this Campaign on the Part of the Several Provinces, Measures having been already taken for laying up Magazines of Stores, and Provisions of all Kinds at the Expence of the Crown. I cannot too strongly recommend it to you to use all your Influence with your Council