

Lib. J. R. & U. S. At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Tuesday the 21st Day of March in the seventh year of his Lordship's Dominion Annoque Domini 1758..

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governor.

The honourable Benjamin Tasker Esq: Col: Cha^s Hammond & Col: Tasker.

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Letter

New York March 15.. 1758..

Sir

By circular Letters from M^r Secretary Pitt bearing Date at Whitehall Dec^r 30th 1757.. to all his Majesty's Governors on the Continent of North America from Pensilvania inclusive to the Southward, which Letters arrived here on the 4th Instant by the Squirrel Ship of War, and were immediately forwarded to you by Express from Lieutenant Governor Delancey, you will find Sir that the King having judged proper that the Earl of Loudoun should return to England his Majesty at the same time was pleased to appoint me to succeed his Lordship as Commander in Chief of the King's Forces in North America with the same powers and authorities, and you will likewise find that in Pursuance of that Appointment it was his Majesty's Pleasure that all his Governors on the Continent should apply to and correspond, with me on all Matters relating to the King's Service. In Consequence of which Pleasure so signified to you and repeated to me I am to recommend to you to use your utmost Endeavours and Influences with the Council and Assembly of your Province to induce them to raise with all possible Dispatch as large a Body of Men within your Government as the Number and Situation of it's Inhabitants may allow, all which has already been strongly recommended to you by his Majesty's Secretary of State as likewise several other Matters contained in the same Letter which for the Sake of Brevity I shall avoid repeating and solely refer myself to, as it is so full that I do not think it can want any additions. So far I will venture to go for your further Guidance as to fix the Number of Provincial Troops that may be wanted for his Majesty's Service in those Quarters to six Thousand to be furnished by Virginia Maryland, and Pensilvania in such proportions, and upon the Terms set forth in the above quoted Letter of M^r Secretary Pitt, to his Majesty's Governors in North America.

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