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New York May 5. 1757.

Sir

As I have received a copy of a letter from one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State to you, signifying his Majesty's pleasure that you should apply to your Council and Assembly 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 ordinary Defence of their own Provinces. And as I am now preparing myself to his Majesty's Orders to me to leave this Province with the Transports in order to join the Fleet, and decure from Europe, It is necessary to acquaint you that I shall leave Major General Webb to command at Albany and the Forts with a Body of his Majesty's regular Forces together with the Troops raised by the Northern Colonies, who will have the principal Command during my Absence. And that in consequence of the Plan settled at the Meeting I had with the Governors of the Southern Provinces at Philadelphia, I leave Colonel Stanwic with 5 Companies of the first Battalion of the Royal American Regiment to take Post in the Back Parts of Pennsylvania, and to have the Command of the remaining Part of the Pennsylvania Troops, the Troops raised in Maryland, and the remaining Part of the Troops raised in Virginia. And that I detach Lieutenant Colonel Bouquet with the other 5 Companies of that Battalion to South Carolina, who carries with him two hundred of the Pennsylvania Troops four hundred of the Virginia Troops, and have ordered two hundred of the Troops raised by North Carolina to meet him in South Carolina where he is to take the Command of his Majesty's three independent Companies, and likewise of the Troops raised by the Province of South Carolina for the Security of that, and the most southerly Provinces. And in Order to prevent any Dispute hereafter, it will be necessary here to remind you, that at that Meeting it was settled, and is agreeable to his Majesty's Orders from his principal Secretary of State that I should supply the Provincial Troops detached from Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina to South Carolina but that the Provincial Troops who remain and are employed for the Defence of their respective Provinces should be entirely supported and maintained by the Provinces, by whom they are raised. As the Plan was settled before the Arrival of his Majesty's Orders by his principal Secretary of State, I hope if punctually and speedily executed on your Part will prevent any imminent Danger, I must recommend it to you in the most earnest Manner that you will immediately in consequence of his Majesty's Order signify to your Council about raising and getting in Readings, a considerable Force to be ready to join and support the Troops already agreed upon to be raised for the public Service.