

larger vessels than ours at Cataracui, w<sup>ch</sup> has determined  
 Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley to order two of much greater force than those  
 we already have to be <sup>built</sup> immediately, that we may be able  
 to dominate the Navigation of the Lake w<sup>ch</sup> seems to be of  
 greater consequence than any other Place or Pass on the  
 Continent. The better to secure w<sup>t</sup> we already possess on  
 it, & to be the more able, to reduce the French Forts  
 thereon in the Spring the General has come to a Resolu-  
 tion to raise two more Regiments in these Colonies this  
 Winter, he I presume he is empowered to do by the Instruc-  
 tions that he has lately received, but I find that he is  
 not authorized to appoint Colonels to them, that they  
 are not yet determined of: Your L<sup>ty</sup> will excuse me if  
 I make any Instance that I have received of Your L<sup>ty</sup>'s  
 favour & encouragement - me to ask Your L<sup>ty</sup>'s good  
 Offices on this Occasion, & to hope that Your L<sup>ty</sup> will wish  
 me to have the Command of one of them. It is said that  
 the Provincial Troops consisting of about 2700 that are  
 under the Command of General Johnson could not be  
 persuaded to proceed after the Action on Lake George  
 but they have built a pretty strong Fort there &  
 another about 20 Miles on this Side which will be  
 garrisoned one with 600 of the best with 300 of the  
 Provincials while the rest return home for better Quarters.  
 The Men that we have raised in Maryland, & raised on  
 our Frontiers deter the Indians from approaching them but  
 I hear that there is a quite different Account  
 of the Dispute that subsist between the L<sup>ty</sup>'s Assembly