

To Governor Denny.

The 22 July 1768.

Lieut. Col. Haldiman having informed me that he is about to send a party of Men to Phila. with some Deserters I have desired him to charge them likewise with Joseph Le plante a French Cadet that was sometime ago taken near Fort Cumberland & I must beg the favour of you to have him lodged in your Prison till the commanding Officer at Phila. shall receive Orders from the Earl of Loudoun concerning him. I have not Instance of His Ldp. given the Assembly the Assembly of this Province since one more opportunity of providing if they think proper for the support of the Troops that were raised here in pursuance of the Agreement that was entered into when I had the pleasure of seeing you at Phila. but some Votes which have passed since they came together convince me that they will never be prevailed on to grant any Supplies on such Terms as can be possibly accepted.

To Lord Colville.

Dated the 20 Jan 1758

My Lord

I am favoured with your Letter dated the 17th of Novem^r whereby you were pleased to advise me of your being appointed to command all His Majesty's Ships & Vessels in N^o America & to desire a Supply of Sailors & Land Men from this Province. I hope your Ldp. will believe that if it had been in my power I should have most readily complied with your Requisition but really My Lord it is absolutely impossible to get a Number of Seamen here at this time by any means whatever, our Trade except to Great Britain is as the Assembly have expressed themselves on this Occasion very inconsiderable & employ but a few small Vessels; the Trade to Great Britain is carried on by Ships that are sent hither annually from British Merchants & it has happened during the present War that many of the Seamen who navigated those from Europe have been either impressed on their Arrival within the Capes of Virginia, or have travelled to the Northward & engaged in privateering soon after they had brought their Vessels into Port; & at this time two Vessels bound to England remain here for want of Hands tho' their Cargoes have been on board.