U. H. J. Liber No. 35 Mar. 28

As his Majesty was unwilling to limit the Zeal and Ardour of any of his Provinces he was pleased to decline fixing the particular Number of Men that each of them should furnish but you will see by a Letter from General Abercrombie the Commander in Chief of all the King's Forces in America that it is expected this Government together with Virginia and Pensilvania will furnish a Body of 6000: Men to be employed with some of his Majesty's regular Troops in such offensive Operations as Brigadier General Forbes who is appointed to command them shall judge most expedient for annoying the Enemy and most efficacious towards removing and repelling the Dangers that threaten the Frontiers of these Southern Colonies; while the Troops furnished by the Northern Provinces in Conjunction with another Body of regular Forces are employed in such offensive Operations as the Circumstances, and Situation of the Enemy's Possessions in that Part of the Continent shall point out.

That the Expence to the Colonies might be lessened as much as possible the Men that they shall respectively raise are to be supplied with Arms Ammunition and Tents out of the King's Stores, and his Majesty's Commissaries have likewise received Orders to victual them in the same Manner and Proportion that his regular Forces in North America are victualled the Whole therefore that his Majesty expects and requires from the several Provinces is to levy, cloath and pay the Men; and on these Heads also that no Encouragement might be wanting to the fullest Exertion of our Force, he is farther most graciously pleased to permit the Secretary of State to assure us that strong Recommendations will be made to Parliament in their Session next year to grant a proper Compensation for the Expences that his American Subjects might be at according as the active Vigour and strenuous Efforts of the respective Provinces shall justly appear to merit.

Gentlemen of both Houses.

As I am persuaded this fresh Instance of his Majesty's paternal Care and Sollicitude for the Preservation and Welfare of these Colonies will make the deepest Impression on you, and that you p. 255 will be extremely anxious to confirm the good Opinion he has been favourably pleased to entertain of his faithful Subjects the Inhabitants of Maryland, that you are sensible how much this Province is interested in the Event of the ensuing Campaign and thoroughly convinced of the Impossibility of our Frontiers being effectually secured while the French keep Possession of the Forts they have been suffered to build on the Ohio, I doubt not but you will strengthen the Hands of Brigadier Forbes with such Succours as may enable him to answer the Expectations of our most gracious Sovereign and deliver us from the Danger to which we must otherwise be continually exposed:

[Horatio Sharpe]