

the King, supported by some regular European Troops, intending as it is apprehended, to commit some Hostilities, on Parts of his Majesties Dominions in America; I have the Kings Commands to send you this Intelligence, and to direct you to use your utmost Diligence, to learn, how far the same may be well grownded, and to put you upon your Guard, that you may, at all Events, be in a Condition to resist any hostile Attempts that may be made upon any Parts of his Majesties Dominions, within your Government and to direct you in the Kings Name, that, in Case the Subjects of any Foreign Province or State, should presume to make any Incroachment, [on] the Limits of his Majesties Dominions, or to erect Forts on his Majesties Lands, or commit any other Act of Hostility, you are immediately to represent the Injustice of such Proceeding and to require them forthwith to desist from any such unlawfull undertaking; But if, notwithstanding your Requisition, they should still persist, you are then to draw forth the armed Force of the Province, and to use your best Endeavours, to repel Force by Force; But as it is his Majesties Determination not to be the Aggressor, I have the Kings Commands, most strictly to enjoin you, not to make use of the armed Force, under your Direction excepting within the undoubted Limits of his Majesties Dominions. And whereas it may be greatly conducive to his Majesties Service, that all his Provinces in America, should be aiding and assisting each other, in Case of any Invasion, I have it particularly in Charge, from his Majesty to acquaint you, That it is his Royall Will and Pleasure, that you should keep up, an Exact Correspondence, with all his Majesties Governors on the Continent; and in Case you shall be informed by any of them, of any Hostile Attempts, you are immediately to Assemble the general Assembly, within your Government, and lay before them, the necessity of a mutual Assistance, and engage them to grant such Supplies as the Exigency of Affairs may require. I have wrote by this Conveyance to all his Majesties Governors to the same Purpose

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Holdernesse

[Gov. Dinwiddie to Sharpe.]

Williamsburg Sept^r 3^d 1753.

S^r

Original. Y^r Fav^o of the 15th ult^o by the Post I rec^d last Night, & hope before this, you rec^d mine by our Friend M^r Jennings, & desire