

L. H. J.
Liber No. 48
September
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the forces upon this Occasion; and it is the Kings Pleasure, that you shall give any Officers who may come into your Government, all the Assistance in your Power in the Execution of this Service.

It being the greatest Importance that his Majesty Should, in the present Situation of Affairs, be truly and exactly informed of the Real State of Defence of all his Colonies in America, as well in Relation to the Ordnance, and Stores of War which are in each Colony Respectively, as to the Forts, and Fortifications, and the Number of their Inhabitants It is the Kings Pleasure that you should prepare and Transmit to the Earl of Loudoun or to the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces for the time being, an exact, and Particular Account thereof, with Respect to the Colony under your Government, in which you are to express the present actual State and Quality of the cannon, Small Arms, Ammunition, and other Ordnance and Military Stores, belonging to the said Colony Either in the Publick Magazines or in the Possession of the Militia or other private persons together with the True state of all Places, either already fortified or which you Judge forthwith Necessary to be fortified with your Opinion at large, in what manner His Majesty may farther Contribute to the Security and Defence of the Said Colony, and also, as exact an Account as you can Obtain of what Number the Militia is Composed and how Armed Mustered, and Trained.

P. S./

Your Letter of Octo.^r
8.th has been Received
Deputy Governor of Maryland.

I am
Sir

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
H Fox.

New York 23.^d July 1756.

Sir,

His Majesty having been Graciously pleased to Appoint me, by his Commission under the Great Seal, to be General and Commander in Chief of all his Forces in North America, I take this first Opportunity to Acquaint you of my Arrival this Morning; As I have been Unfortunately so long detained in my passage, I find it Indispensibly Necessary that I go up immediately to the Army, I must proceed Accordingly—I herewith Send your Honour the Letters of M.^r Fox His Majesty's Secretary of State and of the Earl of Halifax His Majestys first Lord Commissioner of the Board of Trade. I do from your Zeal and Attachment to his Majesty's Service, and from the Loyalty and Good Dispositions of your People, Depend upon all Assistance, that the State and Circumstances of your Province is able to give me.

I will beg your Honour, to Assure the good People of your Province, that they may Depend upon my Protection and my utmost Care,