

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Lower  
House  
Journal,  
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p. 43

Boston February 17, 1755

Sir

The Designs of the French (in which they have so far already succeeded) for Invading his Majestys Iust Rights in these Northern parts of America Contrary to the most Solemn Treaties require these Governments as well for their own Safety as in faithfulness to his Majesty without Delay to use all Means in their power to frustrate these perfidious & pernicious practices.

Among other Measures necessary to be taken Especially at this Critical Conjunction (the present Aspect of affairs threatening a Speedy Rupture) nothing we can do seems Likely to tend more by the Blessing of God to Defeat the Schemes of the French to swallow up all his Majestys Dominions on the Continent in America, than that the Governments should agree in the most Effectual Means for Stopping all supplies of Provisions & Warlike Stores from being sent out of any of these Colonies Without the Inclosed Precaution against their being Carried to the French.—

The General Assembly of this Province have passed an order for that End (a Copy of which I now Inclose) and have Desired me to solicit the Govern<sup>rs</sup> of the Rest of His Majesties Colonies to Join with us in this necessary Expedient for our Common Safety.

Your Honour will observe that the Time for the Continuance of this Prohibition is Restrained to three Months, but if the other Governments should Join with us, I make no Doubt of bringing my Assembly to Extend it further.—

It would give me great pleasure to have Your Honours Concurrence with me in sentiments Concerning what appears to me so Salutary a Measure at this Conjunction for the General Good of all his Majesty's Colonies in North America

I have the Honour to be with the Greatest Respect

Sir

Your most Obedient Humblé Servant  
W. Shirley

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Original.

Fredericksbourg Feb<sup>ry</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1755

Sir

I received your Excellencys Letter of the seventeenth Instant, and was just going to Wills's Creek to execute your commands, when I received the inclosed, which obliges me to return to Williamsburgh; I have taken upon me to move the