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[Sharpe to John Sharpe.]

Annapolis Oct^r 24th 1755

D^r B^r

In this part of America Affairs remain as they were when I writ last, we lose an Inhabitant sometimes by Parties of Indians that make Incursions on our Frontiers while the Dispute that subsists between the Lower House & us concerning the Appropriation of Ordinary Lycence Fines puts it out of my Power to protect or provide for the Safety of the poor wretches whose distant situation exposes them to the Barbarities of our Savage Enemy. May some Steps be taken at home to determine the Controversy! this Province is otherwise in a very unhappy State & Condition. I find M^r Steuart who contracts for the Transportation of Convicts from London is endeavouring to get the Law that we passed last Summer (granting £6000 for his Majesty's Service) repealed because it imposed a Duty of twenty Shillings on every Convict that shall be imported into the Province; People here are apt to think that M^r Steuart as well as the other Contractors might have been well content to pay so small a Sum while they sell Convicts to our Planters from £8 to £20 St^s each, when less than £6 is a reasonable Premium for the Conveyance or Passage of any Person from England hither. It is reported that General Shirley has found it impracticable to make a Descent on either of the French Forts on Lake Ontario this year & that the Provincial Troops under the Command of General Johnson will at this time proceed no farther, what Credit is to be given to these Reports I know not having received no Lett^{rs} from the Northw^d since the End of last Month.

[Sharpe to William Sharpe.]

24th Oct^r

D^r B^r

I have received the Extracts out of the Council Records respecting the Statute of the 6th of Queen Ann concerning the Emission of Paper money that you let M^r Calvert have, I shall take Care for the future to comply with the Orders contained in those Extracts neither do I conceive that the Law which was passed here soon after my Arrival regulating the Value of Coin is in the least contrary thereto, for our Act does not make the Coin or Paper Money of which it speaks a Legal Tender in all Payments but only in discharge of publick Levies & Officers Fees. I am apt to think that the Disallowance of the Act of the Jersey Assembly that you let