

seems to me very Extraordinary, but is of a piece with the rest of their behaviour; upon this answer and intelligence I propose to set off for the back Countys, to put things into some order and do what I can for the safety and defence of the People, tho' very little is in my power.

Herewith I send you a letter that came under Cover to me from the Secretary of State, as also one from the Lords of trade and am in great hast

Sir
Your Most obed^t
Humble Serv^t
Rob^t H: Morris

Philadelphia 6th Novem^r 1755.

To Gov^r of Maryland

Original.

[Shirley to Sharpe.]

Albany Nov^r 16th 1755

Dear Sir,

I receiv'd your Letter of the ninth Instant, and it gives me great Concern to find you had been so long at New York in expectation of meeting me there, & that at last you was oblig'd to return to your Governm^t without seeing me: Nothing but the necessity of unforeseen Business of the greatest Consequence, w^{ch} hath inevitably detain'd me here, & will do so five or six days longer, should have occasion'd this disappointment to yourself & me.

Notwithstanding that it may seem unreasonable to the last Degree for me to request you to take the Trouble of a second Visit to New York, yet your presence there, as is herein after desir'd appears to me to be of so great Consequence that I venture to make it.

The Inclos'd will shew you what I am order'd to do by the Lords Iustices; I think the concerting a general plan of Operations for the ensuing year a work of very great Consequence to his Majesty's Service & all the Colonies, and will be the most effectual means for putting an End to Mischiefs now reyning in your own Government, & preventing the like for the future; and I can't but think if you can possibly attend the Council I shall hold at New York on the first or second of December, if possible, without very extraordinary Inconveniencies & Danger's arising to your Province from your Absence for a few Days, it would greatly promote the publick Good, & be well taken by his Majesty's Ministers: If this Opportunity is lost a Congress of Gov^{rs} can't be had this year; & his Majesty's Service, I am perswaded, must suffer greatly for want of it.