

Absence (which I little expected would have been so long) or if the Indians should appear again on the Frontiers my having received no Lett^r from Annapolis since I left it makes me hope that every thing is quiet there & that the Indians will not venture to disturb your Ldps Tenants who are in some measure protected by the Forts that are built in Frederick C^{ty} while they find the Frontiers of Pens^a more easily approachable, & there is little Probability of that Province being put in a better posture of Defence while the Assembly refuses to make a good Militia Law or to make any Provision for the Safety of the Inhabitants. I am &c.

Letter Bk. I.

[Sharpe to Albemarle.]

Letter Bk. II.
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Nov. 27th 1755 N York

My Ld

I have been at this place near three weeks waiting General Shirley's Arrival from Albany where I find he has been detained contrary to his Expectation so long after the time that he desired me to be here at an Interview with S^r Charles Hardy Gov^r Morris & himself. As our ill success in Iuly enabled the Enemy to reinforce the Garrisons on the Lakes while the Difficulty of getting a sufficient quantity of Provisions & those things that were necessary for such an Enterprize to Oswego early in the season made an Attempt on either of the French Forts at Cataracui or Niagara impracticable this year General Shirley contented himself with rendering Oswego more defensible & building two small Vessels on Ontario Lake that carry 6 Carriage & 20 Swivel Guns each the French it seems to prevent the ill Consequences that would follow our being Masters of the Lake are building larger Vessels than Ours at Cataracui w^{ch} has determined Gen^l Shirley to order two of much greater force than those we already have to be built immediately, that we may be able to dispute the Navigation of the Lake w^{ch} seems to be of greater Consequence than any other Place or Pass on the Continent. The better to secure w^t we already possess on Ontario & be the more able to reduce the French Forts thereon in the Spring the General has come to a Resolution to raise two more Regiments in these Colonies this winter, this I presume he is impowered to do by the Instructions that he has lately received, but I find that he is not authorised to appoint Colonels to them & that they are not yet disposed of: Your Ldp will excuse me if the many Instances that I have received of your Ldp's Kindness & favour encourage me to ask your Ldps good Offices on this Occasion & to hope that your Ldp will wish me to have the Command

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