

the King's Intention, to give me a new mark of his Royal Favour.

As I think it not improper for me to give your Honour & the Province under your Governm<sup>t</sup> notice of my departure for England, so I am desirous of taking this Opportunity of assuring you and them of my best Wishes for their Welfare and that of his Majesty's other Colonies, and th<sup>t</sup> I shall think myself Happy upon my arrival in England in being able to give such Lights & Informations relative to the State of Affairs in North America, at this most critical Conjunction, as may best promote his Majesty's Service, and the security of the General Interests of his Subjects there.

I am with great truth and Regard,  
Sir

Your Honour's most Humble  
and most Obedient Servant  
W Shirley.

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. I.  
p. 209

13<sup>th</sup> July 1756

My Lord

I am just honoured with your Lordship's Instructions of the 9<sup>th</sup> of March & in Obedience thereto have sent to each of the Rent Roll Keepers a Copy of the inclosed Orders. I hope I need not use many words to persuade your Lordship that I have already exerted myself as far as my Authority or Influence extended to get the several Rent Rolls compleated & I hope to gain Credit with your Lordship when I assure you that nothing has ever given me greater Uneasiness than my Inability to serve your Lordship to your Satisfaction in this particular. Those whose Duty it is to settle & manage your Lordships Pecuniary Affairs are perpetually blaming each other & endeavouring to vindicate their own Conduct. Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd your Ldp knows is both Agent & Rent Roll Keeper, & I have been several times so importunate with him to perform his Duty agrccable to your Instructions that I am afraid I have more than once given Offence tho he has never when I have spoke to him thereon been wanting in his Professions that neither your Lordship nor any one else should have reason to complain of any Neglect or Delay on his part, & tis not without Concern that I find he has been less punctual than his Promises at first inclined me to hope he would be found. It is now three Months since I gave him in writing peremptory Instructions to demand & receive all your Lordship's Rentalls, Books, & Papers, that lay in M<sup>r</sup> Tilghman's hands & then to