

[St. Clair to Sharpe.]

Original.

Dr Sir Albany Head Quarters Sept^r 22^d 1756

It gave me the greatest concern some time ago to hear of your sickness, but as bad news travells apace in this Country, my fears about you are seased not having heard any thing about you for some time past. I am sorry you have had so good an Excuse for not answering my last letter, had you not been employ'd in securing your frontiers and out of order, I woud say that you did not think it worth while to answer a Letter wrote in the humour I was in when I wrote it, all the apology I can make is that same stuck by me till Lord Loudouns arrival. What has happend to us by M^r Shirleys Conduct is enough to alter the nature of Man, nor do I find he has altered his way of thinking since he has been superceeded. I am far from thinking my self out of harms way this Campaign, if the french do but forbear their intended Stroke eight Days longer I think we may give them a warm reception, Our Dispositions are good and if they do beat us they must be very strong and the Stroke will be hard. The french bear hard on our advanced post of fort W^m Henry, a Comp^y of Provincials on the Scout had a brush the other day. I am going up that way so being on the Spot I shall be the better able to give you an account of things In case I shou'd stay at Albany this Winter I must think of laying in some stock of Wines, I am very well supply'd with Claret and Madiera but no Port or any other Red Wine: I shall therefore be obliged to you if you can get me a few Hampers of Red Wine (Claret excepted) to send it to me. I have heard nothing as yet of the Mozell Wine, but I suppose as it is a Wine for Summer that it will arrive at York by Winter. I have settled a Correspondence by the help of my German friends for good Renish & Burgundy, I shall willingly divide with you.

I think we must see one another about Christmas, therefore shoud be glad you wou'd buy me a very good Horse, as you have helped me out on the like occasion I need not tell you what kind of one I want. If I come to Annapolis I shall expect such a Horse, and if you come to this place New York I beg you will bring him with you. I beg you will make my compliments to M^r Coutts if it be in your power to do any thing for him I shou'd be glad of it, if not I must contrive to get him something in this place. You see I do not write to you as Gov^r of Maryland but on all occasions I shall be glad to show my respect to you as such, and as a friend to convince you of the regard & Esteem with which I am

Dear Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant

John S^t Clair

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe.