

Inclosed I send Your Honour a Copy of the Minutes of a Council of War composed of Governors and Field Officers according to his Majesty's Instructions held at this Place the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Instant upon the Operations of the next Years Campaign, at which your Honour assisted, I doubt not but you will recommend to the Assembly within your Government in the Strongest Terms to contribute their just Quota by Men and Money towards carrying so salutary a Plan into Execution, which if done with Vigour and in its proper Season, they must be sensible will lay the most lasting foundation for the future Safety and Tranquility of their Province and I can't but hope that the Outrages and Devastations lately committed by the Enemy more or less within all his Majesty's Western Colonies will convince the Assembly of Maryland how essential it is for the welfare of his Majesty's Subject within their Province that they should heartily join in the Execution of this Plan which your Honour will be Pleased to communicate either in part or in the whole as your Honour shall judge Proper and how loudly their Duty to their King and Country calls upon them to do it.

Upon this Occasion I can't but hope that the Province under your Honour's Government will consider how deeply it is Interested in the event of the next year's Campaign. I will not omit returning your Honour my thanks for the Journey you took from Annapolis at so late a Season of the year, and long Attendance at this Place upon his Majesty's Service: and acknowledging my obligations to you for the great assistance I have had in my consultations with you upon the most essential & difficult point of it; which hath put it into my power to promote it further than I am persuaded I should have been able to have done without it.

I beg leave to assure you, Sir, that I shall ever esteem it an happiness and Honour to me to maintain the closest Correspondence with you in the future Course of his Majesty's Service, and to give you proofs with what an unfeigned Esteem and regard I am  
 Sir Your Honours Most Humble & Most Obedient Servant  
 W. Shirley

P.S. Inclosed are the Proportions according to the Plan settled by the Commissioners at Albany; which tho' not perfectly equal, are the only ones that can be made use of until more exact can be formed, which can't be done in time for the Present purpose all inequalities must be equitably adjusted, and afterwards set right upon the first opportunity of doing it.

Your Honour must be sensible that the Success of the next year's Operations depends upon an early Campaign.

I must desire your Honour to prevail on your Assembly to raise their Inclosed Proportion of 1000 Men towards the Expedition against Crown Point in the first place before you recommend to them to raise their proportion towards the Expedition against Duquesne.

Proportions of the 10,000 Men proposed to be raised for the Crown Point Expedition according to the Plan settled by the Commissioners at Albany.

Maryland	1000	
Virginia	1750	
Pennsylvania	1500	
New Jersey	750	
New York	1000	
Rhode Island	500	
Connecticut	1250	
New Hampshire	500	
Massachusetts	1750	10,000