

To Governor Shirley God's ^{will}

Sir I take the Liberty to acquaint you that His Majesty expecting his good & loyal American Subjects will unanimously exert themselves to repel the Encroachments that the French are making on these his Dominions has been pleased to order me to take the Command of the Forces that may be raised for that purpose: but as I despair of answering in the least His Majesty's Expectations & Royal Intention in honouring me with such a Commission unless the several Governments on the Continent will incline to send us such Succours as His Majesty by one of his Principal Secretaries of State gives me reason to hope for; I have addrest myself to them severally soliciting their Aid & I entertain sanguine hopes that the Gentlemen of your Assembly will not be backward to favour my Application. I am not insensible that the Incursions of the Enemy on your own Frontiers have occasioned a considerable Expence to the Province; yet as the French seem particularly solicitous & intent at this time on executing their long projected Scheme of establishing a Communication from Cape Breton thro' the Continent to the Gulf of Mexico, in which they have this last Summer made prodigious Progress by the Settlements they have made & the Forts they have built & strongly garrisoned on the Banks of these Provinces I cannot but think our united Force should be directed to disconcert their Scheme, the Execution of which threatens