

Annapolis Oct. 24. 1755. To John Sharpe Esq. 157

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In this part of America Affairs remain as they were when I writ last, we lose an Inhabitant sometimes by Parties of Indians that make Incursions on our Frontiers while the Dispute that subsists between the Lower House & the concerning the Appropriation of Ordinary Licence. Things puts it out of my Power to protect or provide for the Safety of the poor Wretches whose distant Situation exposes them to the Barbarities of our Savage Enemy. May some Steps be taken at home to determine the Controversy! this Province is otherwise in a very unhappy State & Condition. [I find Mr Stewart who contracts for the Transportation of Convicts from London is endeavouring to get the Law that we pass'd last Summer (granting £6000 for his Majesty's Service) repealed because it imposed a Duty of twenty Shillings on every Convict that shall be imported into the Province, People here are apt to think that Mr Stewart as well as the other Contractors might have been well content to pay so small a Sum while they sell Convicts to our Planters from £0 to £20 Stg each, when less than £6 is a reasonable Premium for the Conveyance or Passage of any Person from England hither.] It is reported that General Shirley has found it impracticable to make a Descent on either of the French Posts on Lake Ontario this Year & that the Provincial Troops under the Command of

General