

New York. Nov<sup>r</sup>. 25. 1755. To W<sup>m</sup> Pepperell Esq<sup>r</sup>  
D<sup>r</sup>

In Compliance with Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley's Request I have every Day since the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst. here expected his Arrival from Albany where he tells me in a Lett<sup>r</sup> dated the 16<sup>th</sup> that Yesterday received he has been detained by the Necessity of unforeseen ~~Business~~ Business of the greatest Consequence contrary to his Expectations & Appointment, & in the same Lett<sup>r</sup> desires me if possible to defer my Return to Maryland a few Days longer arguing it will be well taken by His Majesty's Ministers as our having an Interview at this time is expedient & likely to promote the Publick Good. Finding an Attempt on either of the French Posts on Lake Ontario this Season impracticable He has left 700 Men of his own & 1000 Pepperell's Regiments at Oswego under the Command of Lieut Colo Mercer & taken the Rest of those Regiments down to winter in the inhabited Parts of the Province. Some Gentlemen of this City were informed last week by their Correspondents at Albany that on the 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. Expresses arrived there from General Johnsons Camp on Lake George with Lett<sup>r</sup>s imposing that a Body of 8000 or 9000 French & Indians had been discovered by his Scouts within 20 Miles of his Encampment or Post & advancing towards it, On the Receipt of this Intelligence the General called Gov<sup>r</sup>. Hardy Lieut.

Governor