

I have so many Friends at Annapolis that I will not name one in particular but desire to be remember'd to all, & am with great Regard.

Your most Sincere Friend &
Servant

W. Morris

Original.

[Morris to Sharpe.]

Crown Point Oct^r 6th 1759.

Dear Sir.

I thank you for the Favour of your Letter dated the 5th Sept^r & to convince you of the Pleasure I have in hearing from my Friends at Annapolis, I take the first opportunity to renew the Correspondance, & wish my Epistle contain'd some Account, either of having beat the Enemy or gain'd some important Pass, neither of which is the reason of my writing at present, though it may be shortly.

It is the Opinion of Every Body that the General always did & still does design to go forward but I doubt much whether he will be able; The want of Shipping on the Lake of equal Force to the French (who have five Sloops & Brigs &c) has hitherto prevented us, & must delay us a few Days longer, as some of them are still on the Stocks, neither are our Batteaux of a proper strength, or Form for this Lake, as tis reported to be 20 miles broad in some Places & a very high Sea runs, in a hard Gale. so much for Ships.

Now suppose us got to the Enemy, who are intrench'd very strongly on the Isle de Noix ab^t eighteen miles on this side S^t Johns, tis not certain whether they have not some work of consequence, for they have at least sixty pieces of Cannon mounted, & must be attack'd by regular Approaches, for which we shall have very good weather, as this is the best season of the year to undertake a Siege to the Northward not to mention, that the Land on Each side of the Island is an intire Swamp for some miles; as well as the Channells of the Lake on each side the Island, being very narrow, & defended by the Hull of a Ship, which are made into Batteries.

Add to this that the Fort here is not half tenable & requires at least six weeks to make it so, with all the Troops present, who are constantly employ'd, our numbers decreasing every Day, by the sickness among the Provincials, & the winter advancing very fast, now Judge for yourself whether 'tis of more consequence to maintain & strengthen our Frontiers by fortifying this important pass or to leave it unfinished to go attack the Enemy in the above mention'd situation a very enterprising man would say if Fortune should favour our