

1755. Mount-Johnson*, soon after his return from Alexandria.

Anecdote
of Johnson
and Shir-
ley.

YOUR LORDSHIP is pleased to insist upon my "descending into a detail of every transaction, how minute soever, that can give any light into the more secret springs of our political action." I shall therefore acquaint your Lordship, that upon the general's arrival at Albany, Mr. Johnson laid before him a copy of the minutes of his late treaty with the Indians. These minutes; it seems, contained some unhandsome reflections upon his excellency; insinuating, that to treat separately with them, he had employed one Lydius, a person of not the most unexceptionable character, either for loyalty or integrity. The single reason upon which the surmise could be founded was this. Lydius, who formerly lived near Lake George, and whose Indian acquaintance was very extensive, had offered the general his assistance, in procuring the junction of a number of them, on the designed expeditions. Upon which he wrote to Mr. Johnson, intimating the pleasure it would give

* Sir William Johnson's own seat, near the lower Mohawk castle, about 36 miles from Albany.

him,