

Letter Bk. IV hath been raised throughout the Colonies, for I doubt not but they will all be republished in London & was I to inclose them they would make my Letter a bulky Packet. I shall by the first Ship that sails hence transmit Copies of the Acts passed last Session with the Journals of the two Houses & a compleat Collection of the Laws now in force here & then do myself the honour to address Your Ldp again, in the mean time I am &c.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Lowndes.]

Annapolis 16 feb^y 1766.

Sir

In answer to the Lett^r You wrote to me the 14th of Sept^r last by Order of the Lds. Com^{rs} of His Majestys Treasury which I have lately received I must desire you to inform Their Ldps that if the Person appointed to distribute the Stamp Paper within this Province could with any Security have proceeded to the Execution of his office I should have thought it my Duty to give him all the Aid & Assistance in my Power & would have punctually complied with their Ldps Requisitions, but M^r Hood the Distributor being terrified by the Proceedings of the populace in this as well as the Neighbouring Colonies retired some Weeks before the Stamp Act was to take place to New York where he still remains & as I had no reason to expect that the People of this Province would suffer him to execute his office when almost all the other Distributors on the Continent had been obliged to resign I did not think it advisable to call upon him to qualify under his Commission or to expose himself to Insults by returning to the Province where His Majestys Service could not be thereby at all promoted. There being in his Absence no person authorized to receive the Stamp Paper which was consigned to him & no place of Security here in which it could be lodged I desired Capt Browne of His Majesty's Sloop Hawke who had brought hither a parcel of it to keep it on board untill Instructions could be received from His Majesty's Ministers concerning it with which Request of mine he has complied & still remains at anchor in this port. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Hamersley.]

Copy of The Governors 1st Letter to Hugh Hamersley Esq dated Annapolis the 11th Feb^y & sent by the Post to New York to be transmitted by the Packet.

Sir

As I cannot expect any early Opportunity of transmitting Letters by a Vessel bound from this Province to London I