

It will give me a particular Pleasure to receive your Commands, and to communicate whatever shall at any Time come to my Knowledge, that may conduce to His Majesty's service, which I shall on all Occasions endeavour to promote to the utmost of my Power. I very heartily congratulate You on the glorious Events of this successfull Year, And am

Your Excellency's
most obedient and most hble Serv^t
James Hamilton

His Excellency Governor Sharpe

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to the Commissioners of the Treasury.]

Annapolis the 26th Decem^r 1759.

My Lords

In obedience to His Majesty's Instructions I do myself the honour to inform Your Ldps that upon the Decease of William Deacon Esq^r the late Collector of His Majesty's Customs in the District of North Potowmack Peter Randolph Esq Surveyor Gen^l of the South Part of the Continent of N. America was pleased by Deputation under his hand & Seal bearing Date the 13th Inst to appoint John Ridout Esq of this Province to act as Collector of the a^d District untill your Ldp's Pleasure shall be farther signified, in Consequence whereof M^r Ridout came before me the 24th of this Month & in my Presence took the Oaths which are ordered to be administered on such Occasions & also gave Bond to His Majesty in the usual form for due Performance of his Office for which I believe he is well qualified & therefore I shall be extreemly glad if it be Your Lordship's Pleasure to approve of the Surveyor General's Nomination & to confirm M^r Ridout in the Office. With the utmost Respect I am Y^r Ldps &c.

[Sharpe to the Commissioners of the Customs.]

Annapolis 26th of Dec^r 1760.

Gentⁿ

In Obedience to His Majesty's Instructions I am now to inform you that upon the Decease of William Deacon Esq the late Collector of His Majesty's Customs in the District of North Potowmack Peter Randolph Esq^r Surveyor Gen^l of the Southern Part of the Continent of America was pleased by Deputation under his hand bearing Date the 13th Inst to appoint John Ridout Esq^r of this Province to act for the present as Collector of the A^d District in Consequence whereof M^r Ridout came before me the 24th of this Month & producing his Commission or Deputation did in my Presence take the