

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. IV

Annapolis the 20th of April 1761.

My Ld

I now do myself the honour to acknowledge the Rec^t of Your Ldp's Letter dated the 31st of Oct^r which did not come to my hands before the 21st of last month, at which time I also received a Letter from M^r Calvert signifying it to be Your Ldp's pleasure that immediately on the Receipt thereof I should convene the Assembly & transmit from myself & them an Address of Condolance & Congratulation to His Majesty: having also about the same time received Letters from the R^t honble M^r Sec^y Pitt & from His Excellency Gen^l Amherst requiring me to apply to the Assembly once more for Supplies I issued Proclamations for their meeting the 7th Inst but a sufficient Number of Burgesses to make a Lower House did not come together before the 13th when I opened the Session with the inclosed Speech which I hope Your Ldp will approve of & as soon as the two Houses had presented the inclosed Ad-
resses in Answer thereto I expressed to them in a Message my Desire to join with them in such an Address to His present Majesty as Your Ldp had recommended whereupon a Committee of both Houses was appointed to draw up such Address but they have not agreed on one & I doubt whether they will agree at all for to the Draft which the Gentⁿ of the Upper House proposed the other House insist upon adding such a Clause about Aggrievances as it would be extremely absurd for either me or the Upper House to admit, in Case therefore they should break off I shall join in a seperate Address with the Members of the Upper House & will not fail to transmit the same to your Ldp by the earliest Opportunity. A Vote has been again carried in the Lower House by a Majority of three Voices that the Assessment Bill shall be once more brought in & sent to the Upper House for raising the Sum of £40000 Curcy, £10000 thereof to be appropriated to the Support of 400 Men for the Service of the ensuing Campaign & the Residue towards paying off the Arrears due to the Maryland Troops that served under General Forbes & the Pay due to the Militia & to some other purposes, I doubt not but we shall break up again without doing any thing & as I have frequently observed this is likely to be the Case as often as we may be called on for Supplies, especially as it is now become the general opinion here that the Raising a Number of Men at this time would be running into an unnecessary Expence, Upon which principle it is said that the Pennsylvania Assembly have absolutely refused to raise any more men or to support any more than the 300 that they have already on foot & which they agrèed last Winter to keep up in order to garrison some