

Letter Bk. IV Ldp's private Interest or Affairs in the Province. As I learn from the Colonel that he is about to make you a very large Remittance by Captain Love I suppose he will by the same Opportunity transmit all such Accounts as it is possible for him at this time to get ready. The Bills of Exchange which I remitted to you in my Letter dated the 23^d of April last having amounted to no more than £123 2 6 instead of £125, I now inclose you Bills for the sum of £126 17 6 & am with the greatest Regard &c.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Egremont.]

To The Right Honble The Earl of Egremont. Annapolis
the 4th Oct^r 1763.

My Lord

In obedience to His Majesty's Commands communicated to me by Your Lordship's Letter of the 9th of July I embrace this opportunity to acknowledge my Receipt thereof & of the Act of Parliament, His Majesty's Order in Council a List of the King's Ships stationed in America & a Copy of Instructions that were at the same time transmitted to me, by which I perceive that in order to enforce a punctual Obedience to the several Acts of Parliament which have been at different times made to regulate the plantation Trade & prevent Frauds here in His Majesty's Customs a Number of the King's Ships are ordered to North America to cruize along the Coast, & that Authority & full Instructions are given to the Officers as well as great Encouragement to both them & their respective Crews to put an entire Stop to all contraband Trade whatever in these parts of His Majesty's Dominions. Sensible how much it must be the true Interest of every honest Trader here as well as a general Advantage to Great Britain that all illicit Trade in these Colonies should be prevented, particularly the Importation from foreign Ports of such European Commodities as can be legally imported only from Great Britain, I have always as was my Duty used my utmost Endeavours to prevent such Commerce within this Government. Very few if any of the Inhabitants of this Province were I am persuaded concerned in any illicit Trade except the Exportation of a few Hhds of Tobacco in very small Vessels to the Neighbouring Colonies or by Land to Pennsylvania which it was not in my power altogether to prevent tho I spared no pains to do so, but if the Officers who have the honour to serve His Majesty on board the station'd Ships will send their Tenders or Cutters from time to time up Delaware River & within the Bay of Cheseapeak I am in hopes that an effectual Stop will be now put also to that Trade. It being lawful to import foreign