

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Colville.]

To Lord Colvill.

Annapolis the 25<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1762.

My Ld.

After making my Acknowledgments for the Letter Your Lordship did me the honour to write to me the 7<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> last & for your ready Compliance with the Request which at the Instance of the Gent<sup>n</sup> who signed the Petition sent you the 18<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> I took the Liberty to make, I must inform your Ldp that altho Capt Norton had resolved to sail from Virg<sup>a</sup> the 20<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> with the Ships that should be then ready & had signified to both Gover<sup>r</sup> Fauquier & myself that he could not on any Consideration postpone his Departure yet by reason of contrary winds it was impossible for him to go to Sea till about the 20<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> by which means all the Ships which were then bound to Europe from Virginia & this Province got down to Hampton time enough to take the Benefit of his Convoy & as there are now but a very few Vessels loading here for Great Britain & we have received Information that one of His Majesty's Ships is ordered from England to convoy the Trade from the Bay of Cheasapeak to Europe in the Spring I have intimated to Capt Adams that the Vessels which were loading here when I applied to your Ldp for Convoy are already sailed whereupon he will I presume agreeable to your Ldp's conditional Instruction return again to Hallifax.

With the greatest Respect I am—

[Sharpe to Capt. Adams.]

To Captain Adams. Commander of His Majesty's Ship  
Diana. Ann<sup>s</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1762.

Sir

In answer to the Letter you were pleased to send me the 4<sup>th</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup> last but which I did not receive till this Moment, I must inform you that at the time I took the Liberty to transmit to Ld Colvill the Petition which you speak of it was expected that Capt Norton would certainly have sailed from Virginia the 20<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> last he having by Letter signified to me that no Consideration should detain him beyond that time & in such Case very few of the Maryland Ships would have got down to the Place of Rendezvous time enough to take the Benefit of his Convoy, but as contrary winds rendered it impossible for him to put to Sea till about a month after the time he had fixed for his Departure our Ships had time to load & fall down to Hampton before he sailed so that there are not more than two or three London Ships at present in