

Letter Bk. III Power of the Land Officers altogether to prevent such Inter-  
course, but I am of Opinion that a Stop might be put to it if a  
few Cutters were stationed in Cheseapeak Bay one of them as  
high up as Potowmack River with orders to cruize there constan-  
tly, to examine every deck't Vessel (however small) which  
they should be able to board & to seize such as should not be  
furnished with proper Office Papers shewing to whom they  
belong, whence they came whither bound & the kind of Cargo  
on board. I am also of Opinion that if no Sea Vessels trading  
here were under pain of Forfeiture allowed to load or unload  
at any places whatever within this Province except at four  
particular places only on Potowmack Potuxent Severn &  
Choptank Rivers which places might be established as Ports  
such a Regulation & Restraint would be a means not only of  
preventing illicit Trade but also of advancing that which is  
legal; however as many Persons in different parts of the Pro-  
vince are interested against such a Regulation the Assembly  
will not of themselves make such a Restraining Law but if  
Your Lordship should be of Opinion that such a Regulation  
or Restraint would be attended with any good Consequences  
& shall in that Case be pleased to signify by a Letter to be  
communicated to the Assembly that such a Regulation must  
be made I doubt not but they would then agree to pass an Act  
for the purpose & to fix the Ports at Places where it would be  
most proper to establish them. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Halifax.]

To The Earl of Hallifax. Annapolis the 26<sup>th</sup> of October  
1764.

My Lord

In Obedience to His Majesty's Pleasure signified to me by  
one of Your Lordships Letters dated the 11<sup>th</sup> of August last I  
now transmit to your Ldp a particular Account or Description  
of all the Instruments made use of in publick Transactions Law  
Proceedings Grants Conveyances Securities of Land or Money  
within this Government which I hope will be satisfactory & I  
am, with the greatest Respect y<sup>r</sup> Ldps &c.

Letter Bk. IV

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Copy of 133<sup>d</sup> Letter to M<sup>r</sup> Calvert. Dated Annapolis 13<sup>th</sup>  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 1764 transmitted by Captain Curling.

Sir

Since I wrote to advise you of the Death of M<sup>r</sup> Key One of  
His Ldp's Council nothing has happened here of Consequence  
enough to be mentioned but as a Ship of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Hanbury's is