

Letter Bk. IV

[Sharpe to Hamersley.]

Copy of 2^d Letter to M^r Hamersley Dated Annapolis 28th
 May 1766 transmitted by the Snow Charles Capt Pearson
 via Bristol.

D^r Sir

I have long wished for an Opportunity of transmitting by a Vessel bound hence directly to London Copies of the Acts of Assembly that passed at our last Session that they may be presented for His Ldp's Approbation but no such Opportunity will I am told offer itself these three Weeks, I now write therefore by a Vessel that is on her Departure for Bristol to return you Thanks for the several Letters you were so kind as to favour me with the 20th & 26th of Decem^r last, the 20th & 25th of February & 1st of March by which I perceive there was a very great Opposition in the House of Lords especially to the Motion for Repealing the Stamp Act & that the Commercial Interest of Great Britain & not the Claim or Clamour of the Colonies has been urged as the sole or at least the most proper Reason to be given for the Repeal. You'll see by the inclosed Gazette that a Copy of the Act has already reached us whereupon all the Offices are opened & I hope there is now an End to the Disturbances & Discontent the Stamp Act had occasioned for tho I perceive by the Northern Papers that there are Men both in New England & New York who deny the Right of the British Legislature to bind the Colonies by any Laws whatever I do not think such Doctrine is agreeable to the Sense of these Southern Colonies. Tho I shall decline sending with the Great Seal affixed Copies of the Acts of Assembly that passed last Session until I have an Opportunity of transmitting them directly to London I will now send you Copies of them as printed & stitched together for the use of the Province so that His Ldp. might consider them, I shall likewise send you a Copy of the Lower House Journal & a Pamphlet that has been since published here on the Subject of the Shilling p^r Hhd Fourteen pence a Ton & Fines & Forfeitures which have as I presume you know for a great many years been Bones of Contention here, the Lower House having almost at every session denied by a Resolve His Ldps Right to those Revenues & having in the late Dispute about the Clerk of the Council insisted that if he was to be paid at all for his Service he ought to be satisfied by an Allowance out of the said Fines or Duties. As the Pamphlet is but just published there is no knowing as yet how far it will convince the Members of the Lower House that the Claim they have set up is unreasonable but I think it ought to have that Effect & do not despair of the Journals being passed with the usual Allowance to the Clerk of the Council when we have liberty