

or that to M^r Hamersley mentioned every thing worthy Notice that at present occurs to Me I will not intrude longer on your Ldps Time than just to assure you that I remain with the utmost Respect & Gratitude

Letter Bk.IV

Your Ldps faithful & devoted Serv^t

[Sharpe to Hamersley.]

Copy of 7th Letter to M^r Hamersley. Dated Annapolis the 22^d Oct^r 1766.

D^r S^r

I embrace an Opportunity that now offers by a Ship bound hence for London to acknowledge my Receipt of the Letter you were pleased to favour me with the 7th of Augst last & of His Ldps Instruction that was inclosed which is luckily come to hand before the Meeting of the Assembly. As it might be a means of preventing a Step that would have been against the Sentiments of the Upper House I am very much obliged to you for losing no Time in transmitting to Me His Ldps Instruction which I shall lay before the Upper House before the Affair of Ordinary Lycences can be again brought on the Carpet, & at the same time will communicate to them His Ldps Sentiments expressed in the Conclusion of Your Letter. As I many years ago sent M^r Calvert a State shewing in what manner, under what Acts & by what Authority Ordinary Lycences had been granted here from the first Settlement of the Country till within these few years & to what use the Fines thereon arising had been from time to time appropriated & presume he laid that also before you at the time he applied to you to prepare the Restraining Instruction you mention, I shall not trouble you with a Narrative thereof here but only observe that whatever Arguments drawn from Precedents the Upper House urged in support of His Ldps or his Secretary's Claim to the Fees for granting Lycences in the Disputes between the two Houses which you allude to, they never apprehended the Law would support it & were sensible neither His Ldp nor his Secretary would be the better for their Claim unless an Act of Assembly could be obtained in favour of it which the Assemblies for almost these forty years have peremptorily refused. His Ldp could doubtless as long as he pleased refuse to pass any Law for restraining Ordinaries otherwise than on his own Terms & the Want of such a Law would have been attended with Inconveniencies to the Province, but unless the Lawyers in England could point out how the Fines could be recovered as well as give an opinion that the sole Right of granting such Lycences was in His Ldp I do not see how such nude Right could be of any