

an English Bishop into N^o America which they hoped I would approve of & forward & that I should have no Objection to their Consulting the Clergy of this Province on the Subject. the answer I gave them was that for my own part I could not take any Step either to promote or obstruct their Scheme before I could know your Ldps Sentiments thereof, that possibly the Establishment of a Bishop here might in the End if not immediately interfere in some Shape or other with the Rights & powers Ecclesiastical as well as Civil vested in your Ldp by your Charter, that if they were desirous to know the Sentiments of our Established Clergy on the Subject they were at liberty to consult them seperately but that I could not approve of their convening for that or any purpose. Upon this they agreed to return to New York without taking a farther Step than putting into my hands the inclosed Paper which I transmit for your Ldps Consideration imagining that some of the Dignified Clergy in England who patronize the Scheme will apply to your Ldp for your Approbation. If your Ldp chooses to know the opinion of the Gentlemen of the Council thereon I will lay it before them or if you please to pay a Compliment to the whole Legislative Body by asking their Sentiments you will have time enough to transmit me an Instruction to that Effect before the Assembly will again meet. The Want of some Controlling Power over the Clergy or rather the Exercise of such power in this Province is often lamented but I do not think the people would be so well pleased at a Resident Bishop's being invested therewith as they would to see it lodged with some Temporal Judges & tho they are not fond of Complimenting the Governor & Council with any power they can well avoid, I really think they would on such occasion prefer them to a Bishop. I shall by some early Ship send your Ldp two Pipes of the Madeira that was some time ago imported here on your Ldps Account, if your Ldp notwithstanding the Duty to be now paid here on Importation would have me import for you as many as I am now about to export so as always to keep up your Stock I shall take Care to do so & on All Occasions endeavour to approve myself your Ldps most devoted humble Servant.

Letter Bk. IV

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. V

Copy of a Letter from the Governor to Lord Baltimore Dated
Annapolis 15th June 1767
My Lord

In the Letter I addressed to Your Lordship the 11th of March I inclosed a Copy of One which I had just received from the Earl of Shelburne requiring an Estimate of the