

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Hillsborough.]

To Lord Hillsborough

14<sup>th</sup> May 1768

My Ld.

Being favoured with your Ldp's Letter bearing Date the 23<sup>d</sup> of Jan<sup>ry</sup> last requiring me to transmit to your Ldp. by the first Opportunity a compleat Collection either in Manuscript or Print of the Laws in force within this Government I shall by the first Ship that may sail hence for London transmit your Ldp a compleat Collection printed in one Volume of all the Acts of Assembly that were in force here in the year 1763 & will at the same time transmit a Collection of All the Laws which have been made here since that time both which will be authenticated under the Seal of the Province so late as July 1766 I transmitted to the Lds Commissioners for Trade & Plantations a Copy of All the Laws of Maryland which were then just published & another Copy to be lodged in His Majesty's Council Office, both which I flatter myself were duly presented. I am &c.

[Sharpe to Hillsborough.]

To Lord Hillsborough.

14<sup>th</sup> May 1768

My Ld

In obedience to His Majesty's Pleasure signified to Me by the Lds Commissioners for Trade & Plantations in their Letter bearing Date the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1766 & to your Ldp's Favour of the 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>ry</sup> last I am to inform your Ldp that altho there are in this Province Persons who have been employed in Europe in many of the Manufactures there carried on scarcely any Manufacture of Consequence is yet established here. Those who have Capitals large enough to carry on a considerable Manufacture choosing rather to vest their Money in Lands & Negroes or to engage in Trade as Merchants, & even the Manufacturers that come hither from time to time in order to settle here do not pursue the Business in which they have been respectively brought up but become either Planters or Farmers. A great many Families however throughout the Province make both Linen & Woolen Cloathing for their own Use, & in order to encourage the making Linen Acts of Assembly have from time to time been made granting Bounties to those Persons that annually produce to the several County Courts the best Pieces of Linen manufactured by White Inhabitants in the respective Counties. The Act under which those Bounties are now paid was made three years ago & is to continue in force till the year 1770 but it is not supposed to have any great Effect nor do I apprehend the Inhabi-