

tants will think much of Manufacturing for themselves while they can with the produce of their Lands purchase such Goods as they may have occasion for. Besides the Bounty on Linen the Legislature in the year 1719 intending thereby to encourage the Erection of Furnaces & Forges here for making Pig & Bar Iron exempted such Labourers as may be employed therein for the Term of four years from the Payment of all Levies or Taxes which it is supposed has contributed much to the Encrease of Iron Works in the Province & indeed the quantity of Iron now made here is very considerable. There have within these Twenty years been four Rope Walks set up in different parts of Maryland, in each of which eight or ten Hands are generally employed but since the War the Proprietors are said to have made little profit by them. There are likewise several Ships & other Sea Vessels built here Annually for Sale or on Account of British Merchants but this Branch of Business seems to be now on the Decline. Should any Manufactures be established here I shall not fail to return an Account thereof in Obedience to His Majestys Commands.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. V

To Lord Baltimore. Annapolis 15th May 1768
My Ld

Having since I did Myself the honour to write to your Ldp the 31st of March last received Letters from Ld Hillsborough containing sundry Requisitions I embrace this opportunity by a Vessel now said to be at the Mouth of Potuxent on her Departure for England to transmit my answers thereto under Cover to your Ldp together with Copies of such my answers & an Extract of one of Ld Hillsboroughs Letters by which your Ldp will observe I am peremptorily required to communicate to him all Occurrences that may happen here & to transmit to him from time to time all Acts & Proceedings of Government & Legislature & of such Papers as have any Relation thereto. As I have not fail'd to answer any Letters I have received from the Secretaries of State or to give them an Account of such Occurrences here as seem'd to be material or extraordinary I am a little at a loss what farther was expected & should be glad to receive your Ldp's Instructions on the Subject of the Requisition now made & to know whether I am for the future to transmit to the Secretary of State or to the Board of Trade Copies of the Laws that may be made here, Journals of the Proceedings in the two Houses of Assembly & Copies of the Council Minutes, for All these seem to be now demanded or how far would your Ldp choose