

with which the Persons employed to carry the Mail perform that Duty in the Winter Season rendering a speedy Conveyance of a Letter from this Province by the Way of New York very uncertain, but as many of the British Ships that trade to this Province take their Cargoes on board at Places many miles distant from Annapolis & the Time of their Departure is often unknown & very uncertain, the Persons who load them or live in the Neighbourhood will frequently have Opportunities of sending home an Account of occurrences here earlier than I can possibly transmit an Account thereof to your Ldp but whenever any thing material or worthy Notice happens in this Province I will as far as shall be in my power punctually comply with your Ldps Requisition relative to my advising you thereof in the most expeditious manner. I am &c.

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Hillsborough.]

To Lord Hillsborough. Annapolis 12th Sept^r 1768
My Ld

I am sorry to find by your Ldps Letter of the 11th of July that the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs in N^o America have made further Complaints of Obstructions they & their Officers meet with in the Execution of their Duty but I flatter myself that no such Complaint can have arisen from any Transaction or Proceedings within this Government where I can venture to assure your Ldp the Officers do not meet with the least Obstruction or Opposition & am persuaded that if called upon they will respectively certify as much to the Commissioners, nor will they I believe be thought the worse of even by the Trading People here for discharging their Duty & preventing every Attempt to carry on an illicit Trade. In Answer to the latter Part of your Ldps Letter Permit me to repeat the Substance of what I did myself the honour to write to your Ldp the 4th Inst that every Officer of the Customs who may apply on any Occasion for my Assistance might depend on my supporting him to the utmost of my Power & that it will not be owing to any Neglect or Backwardness of mine if the Laws of Trade & Revenue are not strictly carried into Execution within this Government. I am, My Ld. &c

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

Letter Bk. V

Copy of a Letter to Lord Baltimore. Annapolis 15th Sept^r
1768
My Lord

Having not been favoured with any Letter from your Ldp since I did myself the honour to address One to your Ldp the