

Dear

Annapolis the 10 of June 1769

I received last Tuesday the Letter You were pleased to write to Me the 22^d of March & this Morning Your Favour of the 10th of Jan^y came also to hand. A few Hours after that dated in March was sent to my House about seven Miles from Town I saw the Ship in which Gov^r Eden had embark^t coming up the Bay with a fresh Breeze whereupon I immediately set off for Annapolis & paid him a Visit that Evening to congratulate him & his Lady on their safe Arrival, he received Me very politely & after a little Conversation told Me that His L^{dy} from a Sense of my past Services & an Opinion of my Abilities & Inclination to serve him in future had enjoined him to desire Me to take a Seat at the Council Board as President & he added 'twould give him great Pleasure to find I was not averse to assisting him in that Station, I replied that I was much obliged to His L^{dy} & to him for the Compliment they were pleased to pay Me but that besides the Incertainty of my Stay in the Province there were many Reasons why I ought to decline the Offer, but that His L^{dy} & he may be assured I should as a private Gentleman be ready on all Occasions to render them any Services in my power & that he might always count on Me as a Friend to the Govern^t & that I most sincerely wish^t him an easy & happy Administration. The next Morning he return^d my Visit & then carried him to the Council Chamber where Three of the Members who happened to be in Town attending the Commission was read

I then delivered to him the Great Seal of the Province wish^t him Joy & retiring from the Council Chamber ordered a Salute to be fired from the Battery as a Compliment to his Commission. The next Day I paid him another Visit & put into his hands Lists of the principal Officers in the Province both Civil & Military, of all the Clergy & their respective Parishes & the Names of four or five Gent^l on whom had I continued

Gov^r

Governor I intended to confer some Sheriffs Offices on future Vacancies.
It being almost Noon he invited me to stay Dinner but as
the Family seemed not to be settled & their Furniture not opened
I excused myself. Before I left him he said that altho I pro-
posed to go the next Day to my Country House, he hoped I
should not stay there for that he wight to have some more
Conversation with Me when I should be at leisure, & as soon as
his Visits of Ceremony are over, his Family seems to be settled
I shall give him an Opportunity of being as communicative to
Me as he pleases, & if he asks my Opinion with regard to any
Matters I shall give it him very fully & candidly. I am to dine
with him To Morrow with the Gentlemen of the Council on a
formal Invitation & expect from the Answer He & his Lady gave
Me when I told them I hoped soon to have the pleasure of seeing
them at my House in the Country that they will as soon as
their Time is their own pay Me a Visit there. It has been write
from London & indeed confirmed in some Measure by a Captain
Love who dined with him there last January & is now in the
Province that he then seemed to be chagrined & rather dissatisfied
with Me & with the Compliments the Provincial Court had thought
fit to pay Me on receiving the first Account of his Nomination
which perhaps was natural enough for him to be if 'twas (as 'tis
wrote from London was the case) that there was much Management
& Art used on my part to procure such Address, that the Signers
were severately solicited & that some of them subscribed in my
presence at some Place where I was attending to see some Land
surveyed, which Representation was contrary to Truth in every
Title, for the Address was unanimously resolved on in open Court
a Committee of the Justices & Gent^l of the Bar were thereupon ap-
pointed to prepare One, then it was produced read approved of & subscribed
in open Court, ordered to be recorded & published by the Printer, & the whole
Bench & Bar the last Day of the Court waited on Me to present it, after
which I invited them to dine with Me, for as I understood they
intended to address Me before the Court broke up I contrary to my
usual custom avoided inviting them to Dinner during the Court lest it

it should be suggested that I had solicited the Compliment. From
a particular Expression this very early Correspondent of Gov^r Eden's
made Use of I think he must have been Mr Merewether that
Nephew of Mr Jordan which he brought hither from Virginia
to be Keeper of the Western Shore Rent Roll in the stead of a
Mr Tenifer whom I had appointed & who by a Variety of Services
had merited much from the Proprietor, from being a Lad of no
Family Fortune & inferior Capacity he was I suppose destined
by his Uncle to be suddenly a Person of Figure & Consequence in
this Province, but if Gov^r Eden has as much Penetration as I think
he has & is not designed by the Proprietor to be under the Con-
-troul of Mr Jordan he cannot be long here without looking thro
this Young Fellow & discovering either that he was very easily
imposed on (if he thought he was giving a true Account of the
Birth of the Address) or that he would not scruple on any Occasion
to write a direct Falshood. I suppose you know that Mr Jordan
did not come out with Mr Eden as you expected ~~it~~ would be
the Case when you wrote to Me the 22 of March but he is it
seems to embark with his Family sometime this Summer in order
to reside here, His Lop having appointed him his Agent & Receiver
General with a Salary of £500 p^a Ann & I suppose too he must
be a Member of the Council for it seems to Me that Nothing is
to be left undone that may serve to shew how exceeding high he
stands in My Lords Opinion, He is too I understand to have a
Commission jointly with Gov^r Eden & Mr Dulany for the Disposal
of all the Mannour Lands not yet sold, nevertheless he will still
continue I apprehend in the Tob^o Trade for he has at present Two
M^{rs} here & tis said Mr Perkins also in London are to transact
his Business there during his absence. Good Gods! That His
Lop should be such a Dupe to a Man whom all Men
of Sense must despise, whose Vanity exceeds all Bounds, whose
Education & Abilities by no means entitle him to Respect, who
was lately thought so little of by the Tobacco Merchants in
London that they would not admit him a Member of their
Club & who was almost as little thought of in our Neighbouring
Colony

Colony the Place of his Nativity where those of the first Rank
considered him as much their Inferiour while they remembered
that his Father had figured in the low Sphere of a Virginia
School Master. If this Mans Influence over my Lord is to
continue superiour to that of his Brother in Law my Successor
the Situation of the latter is in my Opinion far from being an
Object of Envy & I really think he must ever long wish himself
back again on the Military Line, for if he is not to receive
more out of the Shilling ~~per~~ ^{per} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Govt.~~ ^{Govt.} than was
allowed to Me viz little more than half, & he sets off with such
Eclat as you say was proposed & as his numerous Family of servants
seems to be designed for he will not be able to save much out of
the Profits of the Government, at least not enough to compensate
him for his Loss of Rank in the Army & the Vexation he may at
times naturally expect from Occurrences in the Province where
without much better Luck than fell to the Share of any Governor
since the first Settlement of the Province he cannot expect continu-
al Sunshine. For my own Part I can truly say that no Person
could be more studious without a Breach of Faith to his Con-
stituent than I have ever been to conciliate the Affections of the
People here yet I have at times met with pretty hard Rubs &
indeed violent Opposition tho upon my now quitting the Station
I had filled some of the most violent have in Addresses express'd
their Approbation of my general Conduct. I have in a former Letter
to you or the Doctor transmitted a copy of a Letter to Me from
Lord Baltimore on his nominating a Successor to Me & I have
since received another Complimentary Letter from him dated
Holland of which I now inclose you a copy together with an
Extract of a Letter I lately received from Lord Hillsborough
by which you will see I am assur'd that my Conduct hath met
with His Majesty's no less than with the Proprietors Approbation
while the Addresses that have been presented to me without Solici-
tation or any Management on my Part are enough to shew how
good an Opinion was entertain'd of Me by Those who had the
best

best Opportunities of knowing Me well & of knowing the Sen-
-timents & Inclinations of the People. I have not by Governor
Eden or any late Opportunity received any Letter from Mr
Hamersley so that I suppose our Correspondence is at an End
& I think You would be of Opinion after reading a Copy of
that I wrote to him the 30 of Octo. last that I need not be much
concerned at his ceasing to repeat to Me Assurances of great
Regard & Esteem. As I did in a late Letter to Brother Phil
transmit a Maryland Gazette containing an Account of some
warm Resolves which the Assembly of Virginia had entered
into on the Receipt of a Letter from their Agent Mr Montague
& of an Association not to import certain British Manufactures
which the Burgesses had entered into upon Lord Botetourts
dissolving the Assembly, I need not suggest what would probably
happen here if Gov^r Eden was to meet the Assembly this Summer
he will therefore I presume decline meeting them till the Fall
at least, before which time he may perhaps learn what Mea-
-sures are to be finally pursued with respect to the discontented
Americans whose jealousy of the Mother Country is raised to a
high Pitch. I understand that Lord Botetourt was far from
expecting the Virginia Assembly would resent so warmly the
late Parliamentary Proceedings with regard to the Colonies & was
a good deal chagrined thereat for he hoped to have an Opportunity
of giving his Patron & Friend Lord Hillsborough a more agreeable
Account; nevertheless he manifests it seems a great Desire to
stand well with the Virginians who are in my Opinion the most
liberal to behave gently to their Governours & at the same time
assert with Spirit what they deem their Rights of any People
in America; Their Assembly consists of Gentlemen of considerable
Estates many of whom have had a good Education & are of a
more liberal Way of Thinking than many of the People in
the more Northern Colonies, Altho the Inhabitants of the
Northern

Northern & Southern Colonies are in many respects unlike each other & some years ago did not appear to have the best opinion of or Affection for each other they seem to be unanimous with regard to the late Proceedings & future Intentions of the Ministry & tho I do not apprehend they will be able to carry into full Effect the Associations they are every where entering into against such an Importation & Consumption as hath been usual of British Manufactures it will doubtless be a means of many things being manufactured in America that would not have been otherwise thought of; & indeed I should not be much surprized if in order to encourage Artificers to come to America in greater Numbers Subscriptions were shortly to be set on foot in the several Provinces for paying the Passages or part of what the Masters of Ships may demand for the Passages of any Manufacturers or Mechanics. As the Three Generals who had commanded in America before General Amherst were pleased to make so favourable a Report with respect to the Claim Brother William exhibited for Me amounting as he stated it to £719.15 and General Amherst avoided paying Me the Money when he was as I conceived at Liberty to do so, Do you think there would be any chance of succeeding if an Application was now renewed on my behalf, perhaps my having conducted myself so in my Station as to merit the Kings Approbation & my being so suddenly or upon short Notice superseded might be urged as Arguments in my favour, if you think there would be a chance of getting the Money for Me Brother Phil who knows the manner in which an Application was heretofore made for it could furnish you with a copy of the Petition or Memorial then presented or at least tell you the Substance of it. How does it grieve Me to learn from both your late Letters that he received so little Benefit from his Visit to the

German Spa & that so little Room is now left for Me to hope
I shall when I return to England see him otherwise than
deprived of the Use of both his hands. The Account you
write Me too of the Doctors indifferent State of Health gives
Me great Concern, It must I think be bad enough when a
Trib. of the Gout is his best Relief. In point of Health I
have much the Advantage for I have seldom reason to
complain even of a slight Indisposition — To what
an unhappy Situation is the Lord Proprietor of this fine
Province according to your Account in the Postscript reduced
Detached & concealed from all his real Friends & implicitly
relying on the Advice & Direction of a Person of all others
the most unworthy in my opinion & unfit to have such
Direction but his in vain to endeavour to shew what a
dangerous Road he is pursuing to a Person who will not
see & is determined to proceed, I have discharged my Duty
& it is now only left for Me to wish him a good Deliverance
Most sincerely wishing You the Continuance of your
Health & my other Brothers the Restoration of theirs I
remain Dr Sir Y^r & theirs most affec^{ly} H^{ly} S

To Joshua Sharpe Esq^r

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10 June 1769