

Hough was dead which is not the case (tho indeed it was reported here
in Dec: last that he really was dead) I have not admitted Mr Bidout
to that Office nor indeed did he apply to me for Admission but on the
contrary advised me that as soon as he found the Report concerning Mr
Hough's Decease was groundless (it having taken its Rise from Mr Hough's
Son's dying about that time) he transmitted Letters to England desiring his
Friends to forbear making Application on his Behalf for the Surveyors Of-
fice & he hath also put into my hands his Deputation which I shall
retain together with the abovementioned Bond untill I am favoured with
Your farther Instructions concerning them. — I am —

To Philip Sharpe Esq: Annapolis 10 July 1760 —

D^r

I had the pleasure to receive a few Days ago the Letter You were
so kind as to write to me the 30 of March wherein You advise me of the
several Bills being paid which I remitted to You the 23 of Sept: last
& am very much obliged to You for Your Management in placing our
what Money of mine remained in Your hands so much to my Advantage.
I shall take it as a favour if in Your next You will let me know
what that Sum was, whether the Stock was purchased in my Name, whe-
ther the Interest is to be received annually or to be added to the Principal,
& I shall be obliged to You if when the inclosed Bills for £300 are paid
You will be so kind as to Vest that Sum likewise in Stock for my Use.
I am extremely sorry that my Brother William's Endeavours to Obtain the
Collectorship of Potowmack for Mr Bidout proved unsuccessful, 'twas un-
lucky he should have had such a Competitor for I find that the
Mess^{rs} Ranburis left no Stone unburned to obtain that Office for Mr