

preparing for the Press would before this time have been printed, off & published, but by reason of some failure or neglect in the Merchant who was to have sent hither a sufficient Quantity of Paper for the purpose, it has not been in my Power to transmit to Their Lordships a compleat printed copy so soon as I then expected to have done, however as the Manuscript copy has been ready for the Press more than a Twelve Month & the whole Quantity of Paper that was wanted is now received the Printer is proceeding with the Work & will not break off again till all the Acts are printed; when that is done I shall not fail to send Their Lops the several Copies required; & should They before I can transmit such Copies want to have Recourse to ~~our~~ the Acts of Assembly of this Province I desire the favour of You to acquaint Their Lordships with the Reason that makes me so backward in complying with their Requisition.

To The Right Honble The Earl of Egremont: Annapolis the 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1763.  
My Lord

In Obedience to His Majesty's Commands communicated to me by Your Lordship's Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> of July I embrace this Opportunity to acknowledge my Receipt thereof & of the Act of Parliament, His Majesty's Order in Council a List of the <sup>King's</sup> Ships stationed in America & a Copy of Instructions that were at the same time transmitted to me; by which I perceive that in order to enforce a punctual Obedience to the several Acts of Parliament which have been at different times made ~~made~~ to regulate the plantation Trade & prevent Frauds here in His Majesty's Customs a Number of the King's Ships are ordered to North America to cruize along the Coast, & that Authority & full Instructions are given to the Officers as well as great Encouragement to both them & their respective Crews to use their utmost Diligence to put an entire Stop to all contraband Trade whatever in these parts of His Majesty's Dominions. Sensible how much it must be the true Interest