

appeared to have any great Effect nor do I apprehend the Inhabitants 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 inten-
ding 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 Increase 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 Bands
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 Mer-
chants 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 Majesty's Command.

No 4 To Lord Hillsborough. Annapolis 16 June 1768

My Lord I am now to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Lordship's Letter bear-
ing Date the 5th of March last together with a Copy inclosed therein
of a Report made the 25th June 1767 to the Lords Commissioners for
Trade & Plantations by His Majesty's Attorney & Solicitor General
upon an Act passed in the Colony of New Jersey in June 1766, which
Report I have caused to be recorded so that it might be known in
the Province to be. Their Opinion that the Act of the 12th of Queen
Anne's Statute 2 Cap 10 is in force in His Majesty's Colonies &
Plantations in America & that so much of the Act of the 4th of George
the 1st Cap 12 as declares the 12th of Queen Anne to be perpetual extend