

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Conway.]

To General Conway. Annapolis the 12th of Febr'y 1766
Sir

A Duplicate of the Letter you were pleased to address to me the 24th of Oct^r last having been brought hither a few Days ago by the Post from N York I do myself the honour to acknowledge my Receipt thereof but must at the same time inform you that altho the People of this Province have not gone such lengths as those of N York & some other of the Northern Colonies their Sentiments with respect to the Stamp Act seem to be much the same & had M^r Hood who was appointed to distribute the Papers in this Province attempted to execute his Office it would not I believe have been in my power to protect him. In the Letter I took the liberty to write to the Earl of Hallifax the fifth of September last I informed His Ldp that M^r Hood had a few Days before retired to New York where he has remained ever since so that when Captain Brown Commander of His Majesty's Sloop Hawke arrived here in December with some of the stampd Paper destined for this Province there was no Person authorized to receive & distribute it had the People been disposed to make Use of it; wherefore as the Lower House of Assembly were averse to its being landed & there was no Place of Security here in which it could be lodged I by Advice of the Council desired Capt Browne to keep it on board & to his doing so it is probably owing that there hath been no Disturbance here since that of which I gave an Account in my abovementioned Letter to the Earl of Hallifax. Had I not been convinced that it would be impossible without a considerable Military Force to carry the Act of Parliament into Execution here while it was opposed so violently in the other Colonies I should have called upon M^r Hood to execute his Office & have promised to support him in the Discharge of his Duty, but after the Proceedings of the People at N York in the Presence of General Gage & a Body of His Majesty's Forces I presumed that nothing more would be expected from me under such Circumstances than to preserve Peace & good order in the Province where I have the honour to preside untill I could receive His Majesty's Instructions, & I flatter myself with hopes that my Conduct on the occasion will not be condemned but meet with His Majesty's Approbation. I am.

Original.

S^r

[Hamersley to Sharpe.]

This present Pacquet attends you by the hands of M^r John Morton Jordan a particular acquaintance of Lord Baltimore &