

Letter Bk. III

[Sharpe to Gage.]

To General Gage.
SirAnnapolis the 6 Sept^r 1765

Your Excellency will I hope excuse the liberty I am now taking in making known & introducing to you M^r Hood the Person by whom this will be presented to you when you know my Motive for doing so. Happening to be in London at the time when the Act of Parliament for laying a Stamp Duty in these Colonies was pass't some Friends of his were pleased to recommend him for the Office of Distributor of the Stamps within this Province which he not apprehending that the holding such Office would render him more obnoxious to his Countrymen than any other Office under the Crown was glad to accept but on his Arrival in the Province about a Fortnight ago he was treated with Contempt by many of his former Acquaintance & hath since been so much terrified by the Proceedings of a Mob in this Place who met last Monday night & pulled down an uninhabited House of which he had taken a Lease & was about to repair that he does not think it safe for him at present to remain here tho I offered him the protection of my own House, but is advised by his Friends to keep out of the Way of Insults till the popular Clamour & Resentment of his Countrymen shall abate. If therefore he should resolve to leave the Province & repair to New York I flatter myself Your Excellency will give him Your Countenance & Protection while he may choose to stay there. As so great an Outcry has been made in these Parts of His Majesty's Dominions against the Stamp Act that there is reason to apprehend the People in general will endeavour to oppose or obstruct the Execution of the Act I am afraid that an Attempt will be made to burn the Stamp't Paper as soon as it arrives here, nor do I think it will in such Case be in my power to prevent it unless Your Excellency can order a Detachment of the Kings Troops hither to guard it, & to assist in suppressing any Insurrection which might happen. With the greatest Regard, I am &c.

Letter Bk. IV

[Sharpe to Baltimore.]

To Lord Baltimore.
My LordAnnapolis the 10th Sept^r 1765.

Since I did myself the honour to write to Your Ldp the 15th of last Month an Affair has happened here of which I think it my Duty to advise Your Ldp & also to acquaint one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State therewith. As I have already intimated as much to Your Ldp or M^r Calvert It would be unnecessary now to repeat that ever since the Inhab-