

**Andrew Burnaby to George Washington, June 4, 1760,
19th-century transcription by William B. Sprague,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of
America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

FROM THE REV. ANDREW BURNABY.¹

[A Copy.]

WILLIAMSBURG June 4, 1760.

SIR,

I arrived here yesterday and take the first opportunity of writing to thank you & Mrs. Washington for the many civilities I received at Mount Vernon. It gives me some concern when I consider the obligations I am under in Virginia to think how I shall be able to return them: indeed I am afraid it will only be in my power to retain a proper sense of them; which I always shall do.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that your friends in these parts are all well. They enquire after you, particularly the Govr. and Mrs. Fauquier, and even to regret very much that Mrs. Washington & yourself are so far from Williamsburg.

We have little or no news — there having been no late arrivals either from Engd. or the Northward. The Speaker was married I believe last week: on which occasion nothing appeared but youth and gaiety. The new married couple are now gone to their seat in the country. As a counterpart to this, I find that Mrs. Burwell of James River was buried a few

Library of Congress

days ago; that Gen. Braxton has been dying of a pleurisy; but is now something better; I believe out of danger.

Yr. much obliged & humble servt. A. BURNABY.

¹ The Rev. Andrew Burnaby, A. M., Vicar of Greenwich, was the author of a small publication which appeared in London in 1775, entitled, *Travels Through the Middle Settlements in North America, in the years 1759 and 1760. With Observations upon the State of the Colonies*. His descriptions of the country are quaint and original. In one of his notes he says: "In several parts of Virginia the ancient custom of eating meat at breakfast still continues. At the top of the table, where the lady of the house presides, there is constantly tea and coffee; but the rest of the table is garnished out with roasted fowls, ham, vension, game and other dainties. Even at Williamsburg, it is the custom to have a plate of cold ham upon the table; and there is scarcely a Virginian lady who breakfasts without it." Mr. Burnaby appears several times in the course of his travels to have visited at Mount Vernon.