

write by the N York Packet to acknowledge my Receipt of <sup>Letter Bk.III</sup> your Favour dated the 9<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> last & to assure you that since the Decease of my old Friend & Correspondent the honble M<sup>r</sup> Calvert made it expedient for the Ld prry to appoint him a Successor It gives me great Pleasure to find His Ldp hath made such a Choice & I heartily congratulate you thereupon. His Ldp having also in a Letter he favoured me with the 8<sup>th</sup> of Novem<sup>r</sup> advised me of M<sup>r</sup> Calverts Death, of his having upon that Event appointed you Secretary of his Province, & of his Intention that the Sums which the D Secretary, Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup> Agent & Judges of the Land Office annually paid M<sup>r</sup> Calvert should be from the time of his Decease remitted to you I have been obliged in my answer to that part of His Ldp's Letter to communicate to him the Substance of a Conversation I had with M<sup>r</sup> Dulany on the Subject of your Commission to him. At the time His Ldps Letter & yours were brought hither by the Post from N York I happened to be in S<sup>t</sup> Mary's County & on my Return home was told that M<sup>r</sup> Dulany had said he was superseded & should no longer exercise the Office of Secretary. As you had signified to me by your Letter that at his Ldp's Desire you had renewed the Deputation to M<sup>r</sup> Dulany upon the same Terms it was granted by M<sup>r</sup> Calvert & had forwarded it to him by the same Conveyance with my Letter I could hardly give any Credit to the Report till upon my sending for M<sup>r</sup> Dulany I found it was not without Foundation, for he told me himself that he could not act under the Commission or Power of Attorney as he call'd it that you had sent him which he observed was very different from the Commission he had hitherto acted under, this of yours empowering or directing him to transact the Business of the Office in your Name & to receive the Fees for your use whereas the Gentlemen who have hitherto been appointed D Secretaries within the Province have always transacted or had the Business of the Office transacted in their own Names & been empowered to receive the Fees to their own Use the Obligation they respectively entered into for paying out of the Fees a certain Sum annually to the Secretary in England having been a Matter of a private Nature at least not mentioned in their Commissions, he intimated too that altho the Persons acting here might be stiled D Secretaries they had in fact been always considered as Principals & were as such directed by sundry Acts of Assembly to take certain Oaths, give Bonds &c before Admission & subjected in Case of Neglect &c to Penalties which could not be imposed on a Person residing out of the Province. The Acts I suppose he alluded to are One made in the 3<sup>d</sup> year of Queen Ann entitled "An Act for Advancement of the Natives