

Calvert  
Papers.

siderable to the Middling sort of people, of whom the Lower House is composed, & might gain a great Majority of that House by being properly applyed amongst them, their Brothers & Sons; besides Military Comissions & those of Justice of the Peace without number, for others who may be lead by their Vanity & fondness of making a figure & being Vested with Power amongst their Neighbours. In order to carry this Plan into Execution; it would be proper to Reduce the Nomination of the New Sheriffs & Farmers of his Lord<sup>ps</sup> Quit-Rents (who generally hold their places for three years) to one & the same year, & to the same time of that year, as the Month of Nov<sup>r</sup> for instance; every new Representative of the people too should be Elected about the same time by which means, as their continuance is for 3 years their beginning & End will be as those of the Sheriffs & Farmers Offices; upon the meeting of a New Assembly it can be no difficult matter to insinuate to one or two Members of each County something concern<sup>s</sup> the Sheriffs Comission, & to others the Farming of the Quit-Rents, & the Deputy Comiss<sup>rys</sup> & Deputy Surveyors Comissions for themselves or their Relations as it may be thought to suit best, to be Entered upon as soon as that Assembly expires, that is, at the End of three years; by this means they will be made at least cool & Moderate, & by an hint at proper Intervals in case of Misbehaviour, they may & will be brought to Act as they ought, without any great apprehension of lossing the People's favour on another Election since as soon as they cease to be Assembly Men, they commence Sheriffs Farmers &c<sup>a</sup> And thus they will be made to Earn these Comissions before they have them, & they will be executing these Comissions for three years, while others are in that House Earning the Succession. But in order to acquire a Credit to such hints or proposals, they should be Inviolably complied with, unless for some palpable Misbehaviour in the House, or during their several offices; in which last case they ought to be immediately removed & granted to the then next in Desert; for as at first obtaining those Comissions should depend on their behaviour in that House, so ought their continuance in their offices to depend on their behaviour under their Comissions, that neither his Lordship nor the Public may suffer by either a Negligent or oppressive discharge of their Duty.

It may prehaps be objected; What, will you hazard his Lordships Revenues to answer the purposes of Government? to which I answer, there will be no hazard of his Lordships Revenues, for the present Farmers are of the Middling set of People of whom the Lower House is composed, nay they are now actually in the hands of the Sheriffs, of which Comission