

Letter Bk. I. in Case Colonel Lloyd should go to England & leave the Care & Administration of His Ldp's Affairs with his Brother it would be proper he should be in the Council. I agree that it might be expedient for his Ldp's Agent to have a place there but I much question if Colonel Lloyd will resolve to take the Voyage you mention & tho he should come to such a Resolution yet he would not I imagine tarry there long unless he has a Desire of getting his Brother confirmed in his Offices here. however tho I will not recommend M^r Lloyd to supply either of the present yet if he shall be appointed to transact His Ldp's Business I would not oppose his Succession in case of future Vacancies. Indeed I will never vehemently oppose any Gentⁿ who might be warmly recommended to His Ldp lest I give Offence, neither will I very earnestly espouse any one whom I may mention favourably, lest I give Suspicion of having any particular prejudice or Attachment. I begin to see that the Art of disposing of Places so as to avoid Offence is one of the most difficult parts of Gov^t & tis not without great Concern that I see yourself rendered uneasy by many & contrary Sollicitations. His Ldp too I am afraid will be troubled with too many Applications on the same Acco^t I communicated his Ldp's Instructions with regard to the Land Office to Colonel Tasker which (as M^r Bladen intimated to you) he declined, not esteeming a moiety of the Fees that accrue to that Office equal to the Fees that he receives from that he now enjoys, which he can execute by Deputy & from which he says he receives about £200 Ster^t a year clear of his Deputy's Sallary: beside the Value of his present Office is certain & not dependant on the fluctuating price of Tobacco. As M^r Bordley has been represented in an unfavourable Light to his Ldp I decline espousing him as I think he deserves, at least as his Behaviour since I have known him would incline me hoping the time will come when he will appear in his Ldp's Sight as meriting his mark of favour As M^r Darnalls Correspondents or Friends had advised him (even before I had opened my Letters) that I had his Ldp's Orders to appoint him to the Naval Office of Potuxent I had little Room to suppose he would resign on any other Consideration than receiving a Commission for that Office. Was there an Opportunity of giving him that place he must also continue Attorney Gen^t because no such Lawyer as I would recommend could afford to act as His Ldp's Attorney for the present perquisites & Fees of that Office. When I acquainted Colo. Plater with y^r Expectations from him in case he accepted y^r kind Offer he desired a Day or two to examine into the Profitts of the Secretarys Office & then declared himself unwilling to accept it if he must pay more than one fourth part of the Income. I am