

[Sharpe to Calvert.]

Letter Bk. I.
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D^r S^r

[May, 1755?]

As the Death of Coll Plater has again left a vacancy for a Deputy Secretary I doubt not Applications will be renewed to you for that Commission. I hope e'er this the Lett^s that Col^o Plater writ together with mine dated in March have reached you. I have sounded Col^o Tasker & find he would not be willing to accept the Office on worse terms than Coll Plater offered; finding that to be his Determination I took the Liberty to sound M^r Thomas on the same Affair who I find would not be averse to making you a more reasonable & handsome Consideration in case you should think proper to honour him with a Commission to act as your Deputy here. He shewed me a Lett^r he received from you some time since which I beleive makes him entertain some hopes of being distinguished with some Mark of Favour. He is generally well esteemed & does not want Abilities but having a very bad Constitution is a little melancholly & frequently indisposed for a long time together so as to be unable to come to Annapolis. He resides on a Plantation near Arundel Mannour about 12 Miles from Town & has a Family of Seven Children four of whom are married & dispersed abroad thro the Province. In case I find there is any Necessity for appointing a Deputy Secretary before I can be favoured with your answer I shall nominate Doctor Steuart who will officiate gratis & resign whenever I please. M^r Young who has married M^{rs} Graham has been with me desiring the Commissions for the Naval Office of Pocomoke & Surveyorship General of the Eastern Shore may be made out to him instead of M^r Cha: Graham. I wait His Ldp's & Your Orders for my Govern^t as to that Matter. You were pleased a year since to acquaint me that one M^r Phil Young of Calvert County had addressed himself to you for favour as his general Character here did not recommend him much to my notice & as I heard he had again made Interest enough to procure a Ship, I took no farther notice thereof, but as you have been pleased to favour him with a particular Recommendation for Preferment I think myself obliged to intimate to you that he is not much esteemed here, that having been formerly employed in the Character of Master of a Ship he some how displeased his Employers so that they discontinued him whereby he is reduced it is imagined to some Difficulties having little fortune & knowing not how to employ himself: there being no place vacant at present He can receive no Detriment from my Delay till I receive your answer how I should provide for him which I shall readily comply with as I shall take infinite pleasure in doing with whatever Commands you shall be pleased to signify to &c.

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