

Letter Bk. I. Liberty to inclose Extracts of my Letters whereby your Ldp will see that That is no new Discovery of M<sup>r</sup> Jones's but how an Alteration is now to be made is the only question & Difficulty; I do not in the least doubt both from what I have myself seen & heard that the South Branch ought to have been deemed the Spring-Head & the Boundary of Maryland tho the Commissioners that were appointed by the Crown to examine it determined otherwise. The Virginians will most certainly oppose any Alteration or Resettlement Lord Fairfax is indifferent & no Survey can at this time be safely made within 80 Miles of the South Branch by less than a Body of 100 or 200 Men, What Measures then can be taken to resettle that Boundary to your Ldp's Satisfaction at present I know not but shall gladly & readily take any Step that your Ldp shall judge proper or be pleased to approve of. Whether M<sup>r</sup> Jones's Services merit a greater Reward than the valuable Living he has long held & enjoyed in Cæcil County I submit to your Lordship but think it my Duty to intimate that I beleive he would never have requested such a Favour for his Son in Law directly of Your Lordship if he had not despaired of succeeding with me on Account of his Past Conduct. What that has been I leave your Ldp to judge from the inclosed Petition which is copied from one that M<sup>r</sup> Jones & many other such Guides handed about among their Parishioners & got them to subscribe & present to their respective Representatives in Assembly during the late Session, & here I cannot help observing & I hope y<sup>r</sup> Ldp will excuse me for it that M<sup>r</sup> Jones is not the first Gent<sup>n</sup> that having good reason for not apprizing me of his Intention has addressed & applied himself directly to your Ldp or M<sup>r</sup> Calvert for Preferment, & thereby laid me under great Difficulties on Account of Promises that I might have made as I think it my Duty always to obey every Letter or Intimation that has the least Appearance of a Command or Instruction from either your Ldp or M<sup>r</sup> Calvert. Your Ldp will not I hope doubt my most punctual Obedience to your Instructions concerning the Act of Parliament lately made for raising Troops in these Colonies & Your Ldp will I flatter myself beleive that no Endeavours shall be wanting on my part to promote His Majesty's Service on every Occasion. I have been some Weeks at this place with about 150 Men (raised by Virtue of our late Act of Assembly) constructing a Fort & Block-Houses for the protection of the Frontiers, My presence here will I apprehend be absolutely necessary till the Work is pretty far advanced all our Men being raw & undisciplined & all our Officers ignorant of every thing that relates to Fortifications or Places of Defence, neither is it without great difficulty that I make them observe such Regulations & Orders as our Situation makes necessary.

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