

Letter Bk. I. Counties will be prepared to transmit by a very early opportunity. The plan you favoured me with for the Collection of the Quit Rents by the respective Sheriffs should have been immediately put in execution had it not been absolutely impracticable in the short time that intervened between my Arrival & the Expiration of the Term for which the former Receivers had engaged: Several of the Sheriffs in Office were not able to give sufficient security for the due & punctual payment of them to His Ldp's Agent & to have displaced them at that time so suddenly would very probably have been their entire Ruin which I was persuaded was far from yours or His Ldps desire or design. I have consented therefore to the farming all the Quit Rents (except in two Counties on the Eastern Shore for which no person could be prevailed on to engage) for the term of two years at 15 p C^t which sets them on such a Footing as
 p. 39 not to leave room for the Sheriffs to advance objections as might perhaps have been otherways done against farming & I promise myself that during this term His Ldp will receive more money for His Rents than He did before even from those Counties that were received for 10 p C^t when this time is elapsed I will put that plan in execution I hope entirely to your Satisfaction.

I have herewith for your information & Satisfaction inclosed an exact State of the worth of the respective Ecclesiastical Benefices in the province at this time; you will observe that the Divisions already made have reduced most of them to a very moderate Value. The misinformation that had been given me made me represent untruly the Income of some of those that are now vacant, which Error you will be hereby enabled to rectify. A similar State of all the Civil Offices you shall receive soon after I can get it compleated which has been retarded a little by the impossibility of ascertaining immediately the Value of some of the Offices which have hardly yet been a year conferred on the Persons who at this time enjoy them.

I have removed M^r Malcolm to S^t Pauls in Queen Ann County the Honour done him by your kind mention of him He is highly sensible of; & to succeed him I have appointed M^r Meyer whom I should be glad to have liberty to present to a better Living for Reasons that I have submitted to his Ldp & which I hope will meet with your Approbation. M^r Dingle whose name I mentioned in some former Letters I have (on his being recommended by the Gent^o of the Parish in which He has officiated during his Residence in the province) Inducted to the Church on Kent Island, a Parish of very small Value. This has given me an opportunity of executing the Scheme you approved of for bringing the Clergy under some Restriction. If His Ldp approves of their being required before