

not had an opportunity of giving your Lordships any Acc<sup>t</sup> of <sup>Liber K.</sup> Affairs in these parts neither indeed hath any thing of moment offered worthy your considerations till of Late since the arrivall of S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Lawrence their Majestys Secretary for this Province who hath given us occasion to render your Lordships the following Acco<sup>t</sup> particularly of himself and his proceedings here, how far they are pursuant or consonant to his Commission and Instructions we humbly refer to your Lordships better Judgment and Determination soon after his arrivall here he applyed himself to us their Majestys Governor & Councill of this Province, and produced his Commission and Instructions relating to his Office To which we readily yielded all due respect and he was accordingly admitted and sworn Secretary, one of the Councill, and Iustice of the Provinciaall Court since which without having given any Security for the due and true Performance and Execution of his Office of so great trust and moment according to the custom and usage of this and others their Majestys Collonys and Plantations as was required of him fully to Capaciate himself for that Office he hath presumed of himself to exercise his Authority in manner foll viz<sup>t</sup>

In the first Place having made diligent scrutiny and Inquest <sup>p. 97</sup> and by that means thoroughly informed himself of the annual pquisits of the ten respective Clerks places of this Province he hath taken and seized into his hands three of the best & most Principal places managed by the most expert able and choice Clerks men who had faithfully and diligently served their Majestys been obedient to the Government and well Behaved themselves in their places to the generall Satisfaction of the Country whom he hath discarded upon no other reason or pretence whatsoever (that himself can or doth alledge then his own power and perogative to make a vacancy and supply the same when and as he pleases one of the said Places he has conferred upon his Son under Age to be managed for him by a deputy whom he brought with him for that purpose another of them he hath conferred upon another of his creatures he brought in with him to be also managed by a Deputy as not at present capable of Officiating himself & on the third he hath laid a reserve for whom it is not yet Certainly known but as is generally reported and given out to be executed by some mercenary person for his own private use & Benefitt altho himself at his arrivall was pleased to declare that no Person was to be employed in any of the said Places that cou'd not officiate himself in Person for deputys were in no wise (according to his Instructions) to be allowed of and under that Pretence with his own Authority aforesaid displaced the three afores<sup>d</sup> most Considerable Clerks others of the old