

Letter Bk. IV & in order that he may be incited the more to keep all his Accounts regular & make them up or Close them at a certain time every year. Let some of the Members of the Council be impowered & directed to meet & examine them, as they must be competent Judges whether the Agent does his Utmost to bring every thing into Order, & if there should be a Fault or neglect any where will discern who alone of the Persons concerned in managing or Collecting His Ldp's Revenue is culpable, I conceive the Agent would be ashamed to be found tardy by them, & then by such Boards examining his Accounts annually & rectifying any Errors here (should any be discovered) Your Trouble in Reviewing & examining them will be much lessened & His Ldp be satisfied that Justice is done him by those who may be entrusted with the Management of his Affairs in the Province. Should the Agent at any other Season beside the time when his Accounts are to be examined desire the Advice of the Board the Gentlemen may be summoned to meet on the Agent's Communicating his Desire & shewing the Expediency of such meeting to the Governor. This Measure alone will in my Opinion if the Agent performs his Duty effectually answer the Intention of your Plan, for indeed the good management & due Regulation of His Ldp's Revenue entirely depends on the Agent's Residing here & being diligent & attentive to his Duty. As I did not know whether His Ldp was well acquainted with the Abilities & Characters of all the Gentlemen of the Council & you tell me he is fond of appointing his Agent or Agents from among the Members of that Board I have taken the Liberty to give His Ldp a few Hints concerning each of them which may enable him the better to make his Election tho I think there is not one of them that he can choose except M^r Calvert & I presume from what you wrote concerning him the 20th of May 1755 he will scarcely be appointed. In Case His Ldp should not approve of any of the Gentlemen that are at present of the Council I have mentioned M^r Ridout to him as a Person qualified to execute the Office of Agent & worthy of His Ldp's Favour. I hope that in Recommending him after such a manner to His Ldp I don't do a Thing disagreeable to you, notwithstanding you take no notice of what I said to you concerning him the 13th of July last, or if you have any

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p. 98 objection to M^r Ridout's being promoted Let me intreat it as a favour of you to acquaint me with the Cause of Your Disapprobation. Your Proposal for M^r P Thomas to Resign his Seat in the Council to his Son the Keeper of the Eastern Shore Rent Roll cannot be carried into Execution; You may remember that I appointed the Son Rent Roll Keeper to gratify the Father whom it was not in my Power to serve as I