

could have wished at that time, by making him joint Commis-<sup>Letter Bk. IV</sup>sary with M<sup>r</sup> Tasker, & in the Office he enjoys I believe the Son may serve His Ldp very well, but I hope you will not think of recommending him to a Seat in the Council, since such a Promotion would disoblige Numbers here, & oblige No Body that I know except perhaps the Mess<sup>rs</sup> Hanburys; not even his Father to my Knowledge would wish to see it. I return you Thanks for the Magazines & Papers You were pleased to send me & for the Historical Review of the Constitution & Govern<sup>t</sup> of Pensilv<sup>a</sup> I have not as yet had Leisure to peruse it, but from what I have seen (dipping into it) the method pursued by the Editor seems to be little different from that of the narrative of our Assembly's Proceedings in the year 1757 which I sometime ago transmitted to you. In answer to your proposal for M<sup>r</sup> Bacon's being engaged to write a Historical Review or Something in Justification of the measures which have been from time to time pursued by His Ldps Ancestors & Himself with respect to the Government of this Province I must beg Leave to observe to you that such a Piece could not be compleated in a long time, since the Compiler must first peruse all the Original Council Books & Journalls of Assembly, besides many of the Records in the Secretary's & Land Offices before he could set about his Work; that he might have Recourse or Access to those<sup>p. 99</sup> Records he must always reside in Annapolis, which was M<sup>r</sup> Bacon to do & leave his Parish at this time on such an Account, there would be such an Out Cry against him as you can scarcely have an Idea of. his personal Enemies (& he has not a few) together with those who are distinguish't here by the false Appellation of Patriots knowing (& know they must) what he was employed about & for what purpose all the Offices & Records were open to him would stick at nothing that might render him odious & infamous; every Failing he has been heretofore guilty of would be exaggerated, the Assembly would not Scruple by Resolves or other Methods to insinuate a thousand Falshoods & I may venture to say that on such an Occasion His Bretheren (many of whom have never distinguish't themselves for their Gratitude to the Ld Proprietary) would most chearfully join the Cry; A Clergyman taken from the Parishioners by whom he is supported & who by Law are obliged to support him to Vindicate an ill Administration! would be one of the Exclamations I should expect to hear echoed thro the Province, & long would be the Catalogue of Vices whereof His Ldp as well as His Lieut<sup>r</sup> Governor might expect to be accused. These Considerations having made me decline Communicating Your Proposal to M<sup>r</sup> Bacon I have talked to M<sup>r</sup> Ridout on the Subject who I know had