

Letter Bk. IV Month: The Reason he gives me for Undertaking such a Voyage is that he thinks it will conduce to the Establishment of his health, & I hope he has no worse Intention or View, or if he has I rely on His Ldp's Justice & Your Friendship that his Expectations will in such Case be frustrated. Should he in Conversation or by means of other Persons suggest or insinuate any thing to the Disadvantage of myself or others Oblige & Serve me I intreat you so far as to desire him to give you an Account of such matter in Writing for whatever Liberty he may take to assert Falshoods or misrepresent Transactions viva voce I do not conceive that he will choose to subscribe to an untruth, especially if he apprehends it will not remain a Secret. Lest his Resentment at his Brother's being disappointed in his ambitions & I will say unreasonable Desires should prompt him to injure me I conceived it my Duty thus freely to give you these Hints nevertheless I am of

p. 174 opinion that if he finds His Ldp or you averse to taking things upon Trust he will cautiously avoid saying any thing which might discover Discontent or give you room to suspect that he is not well with me, lest you who know how studious I was for many years to serve him should think he makes me a very ungrateful Return. Concerning his Abilities you have long been acquainted with my Sentiments. You know likewise that so far as was possible I have endeavoured to make a Friend of him, & if while he is in England you can by any means convince him that instead of keeping him so long out of the Council (which I know he suspects I did) I have really on all occasions expressed my Desire to promote his Interest, & if you can moreover make him sensible that whatever Notions he may now entertain His Ldp is determined to support my Influence & Authority here I shall not despair of seeing him when he returns to Maryland behave in a manner very different from what he did last Winter. As I do not think it improbable that he will at least endeavour to obtain some Office for one or more of his near Relations that are not yet provided for I will take the Liberty to enumerate them & to give You a few Hints concerning their Conduct. Besides M^r Tasker one of whose Daughters he married a few Years before I came to America, his Brother Walter whom I have had Occasion to mention in this Letter, & his Brother Dennis (formerly a Master of a Ship in M^r Hanbury's Employ) who was in pursuance of Your Order appointed about a Year ago Clerk of Kent County, there are the Rev^d M^r Addison his Brother in Law by Marriage who together with M^r Murdock a Member of the Lower House officiously drew up those Addresses agst Roman Catholicks which were presented to me in the Years 1755 & 1756, one M^r Hedges in Cæcil County