

Letter engaged for he has not received any pecuniary Advantages whatever, not a Shilling from any Person on whom I have bestowed a Sheriffs Office or any other Civil Employment in the Province, & if M^r Calvert or any one else has suggested to you such a Thing they have done him Injustice. I have indeed heard that M^r Bladen while he was Governor did often insist when he was bestowing Offices that the Persons about to enjoy them should previously give a considerable Sum of Money or quantity of Tob^o to a Man who served him in the double Capacity of Scribe & Valet, part of which it is supposed was afterwards accounted for by the Valet to the Master, but Believe me nothing of this sort has been transacted during my Administration, however M^r Ridout being then D Secretary by Virtue of my Commission did last Dec. relinquish what I had till then allowed or given him as I have already mentioned, & except his Board has nothing from me at present for serving me in the Capacity of a private Secretary. As this is really the Case it will be some Years before he can save any considerable Sum tho he should continue to enjoy the Office which he now holds under Lord Baltimore together with the Surveyorship that you have been so kind as to procure for him. That you may be better able to form some Judgment of the Difficulties I am often laid under by M^r Calverts Corresponding with others & seeming to countenance them I will take the Liberty to inclose You an Extract of a Letter which I addressed to him the 19th of April last on the Subject of M^r Dulany's appointment, a Step which I doubt not has encouraged the latter to hope that by going to England & being in Company with His Ldp & M^r Calvert he shall be able to carry many points & indeed it has been given out by some of his Intimates that my Administration draws towards a Conclusion Could M^r Calvert reap any Benefit from lessening my Influence I should not complain but this I am confident cannot be the Case, It must be for the Interest of both His Ldp & him while I continue here to support my Authority, but how is this done by letting the People see that there is a Person or a Family in the Province whose Interest at home is much greater than that of their Governor—

Having as I conceive by way of answer to the former part of Your Letter wrote much more than You will read with any degree of Satisfaction I shall in answer to the latter part of it do no more than return You my sincere & hearty Thanks for your great Assiduity & pains to get those Accounts past & to obtain an order for Payment. I am glad you thought of requesting the Lords of the Treasury to refer them to those three Generals, as they must indeed have acted an extraordinary Part if they had not thought the Claim just & reasonable