

against it to attack that Fort with the least Prospect of Success ; & I doubt not but S<sup>r</sup> Jeffery Amherst has before this time effectually provided for the Defence & Security of the Forts on the Lakes & Frontiers of New York & that he will soon employ some of the Forces under his Command in such a way as to recover the lost Posts & bring the Indians to Reason. The Death of a very worthy Clergyman the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Richard Harrison late Rector of S<sup>t</sup> Lukes Parish in Queen Anns County, and the Decease of the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Alex<sup>r</sup> Malcolm Rector of St. Pauls in the same County who had been some time very infirm having vacated two large Parishes in that County where there are two others very small called St. Johns & Christ Church, I could wish as the two last lye at so great a Distance that they cannot be united, that if His Lordship approves thereof the Assembly might prepare a Bill at their next meeting for making a new Division of that County into three Parishes (instead of four) after such a manner as may be most convenient for both the Parishioners & the several Rectors. Till I can have the Satisfaction to know His Lordship's pleasure with regard to this matter I shall authorize the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Barclay Rector of St Peters in Talbot County to officiate as Curate in S<sup>t</sup> Lukes, & the Rever<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Keene Rector of this Parish to officiate in S<sup>t</sup> Pauls & will get M<sup>r</sup> Dowie Rector of S<sup>t</sup> Johns one of the small Parishes abovementioned or some other Clergyman to officiate here in M<sup>r</sup> Keenes stead, & when the proposed Division of Queen Anns County into three parishes if His Ldp approves thereof shall be made I should be glad to have his permission to induct into one of them the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> John Barclay, into another the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Keene who is a Native of the Province & has several near Relations in that County, & into the Third the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Hugh Neal who is at present one of the Society's Missionaries in Pennsylvania, but having some time ago married a Daughter of Colonel Hopper (one of our Assembly & who has in that Character behaved very well towards me) he would be very glad to be settled in this Province especially in Queen Anns County where all his Wife's Relations reside. Should His Ldp approve of these Promotions I would then recommend the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Walker at present Rector of all Hallows in this County to the Living of S<sup>t</sup> Peters in Talbot where he has a good House & Plantation & the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Dowie at this time Rector of St. Johns to Westminster Parish in this County.