

Letter Bk.IV I had last year to be dissatisfied with the Conduct of those two Gentlemen, of whose ruling Passions you seem I think to be pretty well apprized. It gives me pleasure to find by His Ldp's Instructions & by your Letter that the Step I took upon the Discovery of M<sup>r</sup> Darnall's fraudulent neglect was well approved of & I return you Thanks for your friendly Offices towards D<sup>r</sup> Scott in whose favour I hope to receive His Ldp's Instruction before the Arrears due from M<sup>r</sup> Darnall are paid by M<sup>r</sup> Ross. Unable to guess what it is that malice can have suggested to the Doctor's Disadvantage I cannot attempt to vindicate him from the Aspersion but confident am I that his Character will stand the nicest Scrutiny. Nevertheless there may perhaps be still Letter Writers in the Province arrogant enough to misrepresent & make as free with him as that very ingenious & candid Gentleman out of his great Zeal as he is pleased to intimate for the honour of His Ldp's Government did with M<sup>r</sup> Ridout, when he was advising his Merchant (whom doubtless it must prodigiously concern) of that Gentleman's Promotion. Who were the People I wonder that this sham Friend to His Ldp says were in so great a Ferment at M<sup>r</sup> Ridout's being appointed a Member of the Council? Were they His Ldp's Friends or his Enemies? if the former why then no doubt one should expect that M<sup>r</sup> Ridout was obnoxious to the Rest of the Council, but sure I am that One alone excepted there is not another who is not well pleased to have him among them. Were they then His Ldp's Enemies or those who have distinguish't themselves by ther Opposition that were in a ferment at his preferring to a Seat in the Council & upper House a Person who according to the letter writers Accounts wants Capacity to support the Rights of the Proprietor? Is it probable that such Persons would except against him on that Account & complain of his not being throughly acquainted with the Constitution of the Province? Or can it be supposed that those of the Inhabitants who having never been Members of either House could not see enough of M<sup>r</sup> Ridout to form any Judgment of him or his Capacity are the people who were said to be in such a terrible ferment? But the Truth is that when the Dulanys found they were not to be one Commissary General & the other Secretary & in short to be gratified in all their Demands however unreasonable They & those with whom they were particularly connected resolved to wreak their Vengeance on him whom they were pleased to consider as an Interloper (& I am satisfied that had any other Person been preferred on Col<sup>o</sup> Tasker's Death they would have been equally dissatisfied) a thousand Lies were most industriously propagated through the Country, even his not having been