

years having all contributed to make me entertain a sincere Friendship & the highest Regard for him Your Ldp will naturally suppose that I was not a little affected at the melancholy Account of his Death which I received a few Days ago in the Letter with which Your Ldp did me the honour to favour me the 8th of Nov^r last, a Letter which on Account of that Intelligence was indeed very unwelcome but in other respects such a one as demands my most grateful Acknowledgments of which therefore I beg Your Ldp's Acceptance With Your Ldps I have received a Letter also from M^r Hamersley advising me of Your Ldps having upon the Demise of M^r Calvert favoured him so far as to appoint him Secretary of Maryland & in the Letter was inclosed your Ldp's Commission to that purport which I shall have recorded agreeable to M^r Hamersley's Desire; & will signify to the Commissary General as well as to Your Ldp's Agent & Judges of the Land Office that they are for the future to make the same Annual Remittance to him as they did to his Predecessor. At the time Your Ldp & M^r Hamersley's Letters were brought hither from the Post from N York I happened to be in S^t Mary's County & on my Return home was told that M^r Dulany had reported he was superseded & should no longer act as Secretary. As M^r Hamersley had in his Letter signified to me that in Obedience to Your Ldp's Directions he should continue M^r Dulany D Secretary & had transmitted a Commission to him empowering him to act in that Capacity I was Your Ldp will suppose very much surprized at hearing such a Report but upon my speaking to M^r Dulany about it I found that it was not without foundation for he told me that he could not act under the Commission or Power of Attorney (as he called it) that M^r Hamersley had sent him, by which it seems he is impowered or directed to transact the Business in M^r Hamersley's Name & to receive the Fees for his use, whereas those who have hitherto acted as D Secretaries within the Province have always transacted the Business in their own Names & been impowered to receive the Fees to their own Use, the Obligation they entered into for paying the Secretary in England a certain Sum annually out of the Fees having been a matter of a private Nature at least not mentioned in their Commissions, at the same time he intimated that altho the Person acting here as Secretary of the Province might be stiled Deputy Secretary he had in fact been always considered as principal, it being by several Acts of Assembly directed that before the Person who may be appointed Secretary could do any Act or be capable of executing the Office he should take certain Oaths before One of the Provincial Justices & give Bond here for the faithful Exe-