

a Gent<sup>n</sup> of considerable Credit as a Merch<sup>t</sup> & well versed in Acco<sup>ts</sup> & as such his Lordship has desired me to Introduce him to yo<sup>r</sup> acquaintance

The Commission he brings is of two Sorts, One for the Sale of his Lordships Manors or reserved Lands, the other for the auditing of M<sup>r</sup> Loyd's past Accounts & the future Regulation of that Office, both alike Delegated to your Self in conjunction with M<sup>r</sup> Dulany & M<sup>r</sup> Jordan by Separate commissions and Instructions.

In the Proposed Sale of the reserved Lands his Lordship has particular Satisfaction in adopting a Plan Originally Suggested by M<sup>r</sup> Dulany's kind Advice which he hopes he has not mistaken, the Power was meant to be as extensive and the Instructions as little restrictive as the Case would admit, his Lordships Confidence being entirely placed in the Prudence and Disinterestedness of his Commissioners.

The Stamp Act has undergone much Discussion and Altercation in both Houses where it is made the Political Tub & Tryal of Skill between the Contending Partys each of whom have alternately Claimed the Royal Support & Countenance for the Repeal or Enforcing of the Law in consequence of w<sup>ch</sup> the Ministry have one day carried their question in the Commons by a large Majority & in two days after have been defeated in the Lords (where the Strength of opposition lyes) tho' by small Numbers. The Perusal of Papers & Examination of witnesses being now Closed the Business is brought near to a Crisis & to Morrow is understood to be the Day for Agitating the Question in the Commons whether Leave shall be given for bringing in a Bill to Repeal the Law or not and from a late Explicite Declaration of the Crown in favor of the Repeal there seems a prospect of a considble Majority for the Affirmative. Still I apprehend the ground will be fought Inch by Inch with great Obstinacy and in the Lords perhaps w<sup>th</sup> no great Inequality. But *Magna est Veritas*, and I Trust, *Prævalebit*.

Enclosed I send you the Resolutions of the Lords & those of the Commons are nearly the same. The great Struggle was upon the first Proposition asserting the universal Sovereignty of the British Legislature over all her Colonies *in all cases whatsoever* and upon Inceriting the word *Require* in the fourth Resolution instead of the word *Recommend* with w<sup>ch</sup> it was first Introduced by the ministry. The Principal Champion in the Lords for America was Lord Camden, late Lord Chief Justice Pratt who objected to the generalites of the first Proposition "in all cases whatsoever" and tho' he did not Move a new question or any Exception to that Proposed yet he Laboured a distinction in the case of Internal Taxation