

His Ldp's, at least at his sole Disposal as much as any other part of his Estate for your better Information I have desired Mr Ridout to get & herewith transmit you a Copy of what pass't, this Session between the two Houses on this Subject & as soon as I return from Kent County will communicate to you any Thing else which might pass between the two Houses relative to this or any other Matter of Consequence. An Act for the farther Continuance of the Inspection Law is already pass't, & hitherto there has been the greatest Harmony between the two Houses, which I flatter myself will continue to the End of the Session & I expect they will then join in an Address to His Majesty on Occasion of the late Proceedings of Parliament in favour of the Colonies. I am with the greatest Regard &c.

Letter Bk.IV

[Riggin and others to Sharpe.]

Original.

Tuesday 25th Novem^r 1766 Country Parish Som^t C^{ty}

Sir

The Rever^d Nathaniel Whitaker departed this life on Sunday Evening last, which occasions us to trouble you with this Express, as we think it our duty to give you the earliest Intelligence of that event, and as we have repeatedly petitioned your Excellency that on such an event hapening you would in compassion to our long unhappy Circumstances use your endeavours to prevent the like imposition & as you have as often given us the strongest assurances to be of all the Service in your power, we shall continue in an expectation that no Minister will be inducted into our parish until we can have the tryal and that such person from his good conduct may become esteemed & receive the Aprobation of the Congregation.

We hope Sir that you will not conceive that we claim this as an absolute right, but that we expect it and hope your Excellency will be perswaded to think we merit this Indulgence when you recolect that we have been more than twenty years without having the Gospel preached to us or any other religious exercise performed, unless when Providence hath been pleased to through a Clergyman in our way and by gaining his labour on a Subscription greater then our circumstances would admit. Your Excellency may remember we some small time past Petitioned you in favour of the Rev. M^r Andrew Morton a Gentleman who we had some small tryal of, and as far as oportunity admitted we aproved, should your Excellency permit us to have a further Tryal of him we would esteem it as a particular favour (in case we can procure him for that purpose) and should we fail in him there is