

rogatives the Establishing of an Episcopate here may perhaps eventually interfere, for tho by the Scheme the Bishop is not to interfere in Civil Matters & is only to make a Tour from time to time in order to confirm & ordain it might be question'd whether all his Successors will be satisfied without some greater Share of power & Influence than that alone will give them. It having been hinted to me since I begun to write this Letter that in the first place M^r Garth is to petition the Crown for an Order to this purport that the Lower House be permitted to appoint & support an Agent by a Tax to be imposed for that purpose I take the liberty lest you should not have taken Notice thereof to point out to you a Message which the Upper House on the 16th of Decem^r 1765 sent to the Lower on the Subject of an Agents Bill then returned with a Negative as it may perhaps furnish you with Heads for a Counter Petition if you think it a proper measure to present one.

Letter Bk.IV

[Hughes to Sharpe.]

Original.

Worcester Parish June 10th 1767

May it please your Excellency,

I have the pleasure to inform you, that the prejudice conceiv'd against me are worn off, & the people brought to a juster sense of Subordination & Dependance on lawful Authority. Their notions of a Right to chuse a minister were as high, as erroneous, & on my arrival I was told I should probably hear something disagreeable from some of the Inhabitants on that Head. I thought it adviseable to cure their mistakes, & in my first Sermon I layd down the Origin & nature of my office in the fullest manner I could, & their Subsequent duty, the Subordination necessary to the Support of the church of Christ, the mutual Dependance that should subsist between the various Members of the Community, & the indispensible necessity all men lay under, to submit to Lawful Authority. From that hour I met with kindness & Civility, & on the last Sunday I had the greatest Congregation (as I am told) that ever was seen here & very near two hundred Communicants. Their dislike to me (they pretend) arose from my not writing to the Vestry, but to the Rev. M^r Rosse to inform them of my appointment to this cure, & my desiring him to preach on week days, & perform the Occasional dutys. He was not a favourite of M^r M^cClenegans, & of consequence would not be agreeable here; nor could the person who should employ him be acceptable, from this, they gave out that I could not preach, that I was attached only to the Rum bottle, & that a pint was my usual Consumption in time of Divine Service. This I found was the Reason of the Liberality of