

Letter Bk V. properly conferr'd; & tho in your Letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 1767 (where you mentioned M<sup>r</sup> W Dulany as the only Person recommended to succeed the late Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup> then languishing) you express't some Doubt about his being sufficiently versed in the Ecclesiastical & Civil Law to discharge the Duties of the Office, I am satisfied no Body here who knows him thinks him deficient in point of Abilities whatever Objections of a different Sort may have been started against his holding such principal Office in the Government. Before I proceed to vindicate my Conduct in appointing M<sup>r</sup> Allen His Ldp's Agent Permit me to recapitulate what has pass't between us with respect to that Gentleman since it was first intimated to me that His Ldp had a View of providing for him. In your Letter dated the 26 of Dec<sup>r</sup> 1765 you said "There is a very deserving Clergyman a Fellow of a College at Oxford of a good tho numerous Family, an intimate Acquaintance of His Ldp to whom he would wish to give some Preferment in Maryland, you will therefore please to look out & give His Ldp Notice of the first that offers with the Circumstances & Value." In a Letter His Ldp did me the honour to write to me the 2<sup>d</sup> of August 1766 he thus express't himself "I desire that you will be pleased to observe what has been mentioned to you in relation to a Living for a particular Friend of mine here in England M<sup>r</sup> Allen of Oxford. I propose he shall have one of the best & he will send a Deputy from hence for him & in this for many Reasons I desire your Assistance in compleating." On my Receipt of His Ldp's Letter I promised in my answer dated the 7<sup>th</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1766 to give him the earliest Notice when any Living of considerable Value should become vacant, taking the liberty at the same time to intimate to His Ldp that the bestowing a Living here on a Clergyman resident in England leaving it to him to send a Curate to officiate in his stead was a new Measure & might be deemed contrary to the Spirit of the Acts of Assembly that provide for the Clergymens Maintenance. Very soon afterwards M<sup>r</sup> Allen arrived in the Province bringing me from His Ldp the following Letter dated the 22<sup>d</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> 1766 "The Bearer hereof is M<sup>r</sup> Allen the Oxford Gentleman I sometime since mentioned to you & as from the great Desire he has of Visiting America he has resigned a good Appointment I would not have him a Loser by the Exchange & as you say there are Livings vacant worth £150 stg each should be glad M<sup>r</sup> Allen might hold two of those Livings till one of the best become vacant for which he may think it worth while to make a Change & to which I desire you would present him." The answer I returned His Ldp (at the same time writing to you to the same Effect) was