

Letter Bk. V People of the Province are more or less interested they might take the liberty to scrutinize & perhaps to dispute my Qualifications. Had Mr Allen I say talk't to me in this strain on my refusing to admit him to the Agency what Answer could I have given him. Had he been appointed Commissary where could he have procured the two sufficient Sureties having visible Landed Estates to the Value of £3000 to join with him in the Bond directed by Act of Assembly to be given previous to the Commissary's entering upon his Office when upon being appointed Agent he could only offer as his Security Mr Merewether of Virginia whom he had engaged as his Clerk, & who had not the smallest Landed Estate in this Province or any where else that I have heard of. Upon the whole I am clearly of Opinion that there was infinitely more propriety in appointing Mr Allen His Ldp's Agent than Commissary General, the latter Office he could not have executed by Deputy but it was very possible for him to get for a handsome Salary a Person in every respect qualified to do or assist him in doing the Business of the Agents Office, & in case of any little Slips he would not be responsible to the whole Province, while too the Board of Revenue here would rectify any Errors & be always ready to advise him. Having already touched on that part of your Letter which seems to imply that by the Appointment of Mr Allen to the Agency Col^o Lloyd was abruptly dismissed when His Ldps Intention was to have parted Civilly with him, I shall only add that by such Appointment I rather obliged than disobliged him; he had as you say in your Letter of the 13th of August 1767 before that time desired you to advise My Lord of his Intention to resign, he had lately express't to me an earnest Desire to be quit of His Ldp's Affairs & was determined that none with whom he was intimately connected should ever be concerned with them again, as Mr Jordan it seems was given to understand when he offered the Colonels Son to procure for him the Agency if his Father would only continue in the Office long enough for him to write to My Lord on his Behalf. As I fear I have already tired your Patience while I have been endeavouring to excuse Myself for issuing the Commission to Mr Allen I shall be very short with respect to the other Step by which I have been so unfortunate as to incur His Ldps Displeasure. After Col^o Lloyd had given Major Jenifer (his Deputy in Annapolis) to understand that he should resign his two Offices as soon as a final Settlement could be made between him & the Commissioners authorized to audit his Accounts, Mr Tasker the late President applied to me on the Major's Behalf desiring he might be appointed Keeper of the Rent Roll, I answered that I was satisfied no Person in the Province was better