

I think it extremely hard that his Lordship's good intentions should be frustrated with regard to me in every respect, & put in execution with regard to every other person tho' scarcely known to him by name. Mr Hamersley repeatedly assured me that I was destin'd to the Commissary's office or part of it, or for the Naval officer's place of Patuxent. If the immediate Commission be not already filled up, it remains to be filled up, & half the Commissary's office is as much vacant now as it was then. I may hope, that your Excellency would exert your powers in one case if in the other.

I should be extremely sorry that my Lord's affairs should suffer thro' me. they have not yet suffer'd since I have had them for 8 months in my hands nor do I think they will suffer at all if I keep them four months longer till his Lordship's pleasure is known. I am very clear that no man can act legally as agent but upon my voluntary resignation (if then) or by Deputation from me. I beg you will pardon the freedom of my pen on this occasion being, with great Consideration,

Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient
& most humble Servant

Bennet Allen

Original.

[P. Hughes to Sharpe.]

Coventry Parish Dec^r the 16th 1768

May it please your Excellency,

There has been no attack as yet against my person, tho' threatned with another Visit from the Swampman of Worcester. I attended the Court at Princess Ann & was fined forty shill^s. When this was over; they framed a story, that I had given one Catline five hun^d pounds to kill Allen, Dennis, & Tho^s Hayward. Hearing one Waters had mention'd it to Mr Gale, I desired Waters to name his Author, who said he had it from one Long, who had it from a brother of Catlines. I met Catline brought him to Waters, where high words arose between them, & I left them. Waters said he could not believe it at any rate, but when it came from so infamous a fellow as Catline, he was sure it was a lie. I saw Catline talking to Allen twice, once before, & in a short time after I spoke to Catline I stayd in town that day & the next. Col^l John Dennis told me, that his brother told him, that Catline said so to him; but I am informed it is now layd on Mr Sam. Willson.

They expect great matters from the New Governor. The Apprehension of the military has had great effect one Company woud bring them to Reason, but this Lex ultima is of their own seeking, if ever enforced. I gave the summonsess of the Provincial Court to the Sheriff, who promis'd to serve them, their friends give out, the Rioters will not obey them.