

Justice of Peace & a Gentleman with whose Conduct in the Assembly I had great Reason to be satisfied & who is universally esteemed I told M^r Smith that it was not at present in my power to gratify him in the manner he desired. As to M^r M^cLocklin I must inform you that Col^o Lloyd having recommended him by a Letter wrote before I arrived in the Province & delivered to me the Day I came on Shore I would have appointed him Sheriff of Kent County in which he resided, but as soon as the People were apprized of my Intention many of the Inhabitants of the County drew up & presented to me a Petition setting forth that he was in desperate Circumstances & therefore praying that he might not be appointed to such an Office; Convinced upon Enquiry that there was too much Truth in the Allegation (& indeed he soon afterwards was broke up) I thought myself obliged to signify to him that I could not in prudence issue a Commission to himself but as I had intended him a Kindness I left it to Col^o Lloyd who recommended him to nominate some other in his stead whereupon the Colonel mentioned to me a Friend of M^r M^cLocklin's who was thereupon appointed & I have understood that M^r M^cLocklin received a Share of the Profits. Since that time he has acted as a sort of Factor or Store-keeper for some of his Countrymen & is lately credited with a Cargo or Store by one M^r M^cLean another of his Countrymen who is setting up for a Tobacco Merchant. In a Letter I wrote you some time ago I told you that I should appoint a Son of the M^r Nicholson You recommend Sheriff of Queen Anns County, what I had then promised I have since performed & he is at present in that Office, which methinks might have satisfied the Father at least for some time especially as I had told him the Sheriff's Office of Kent County where he (the Father) lives hath been long since engaged, besides as he is Deputy Clerk of Kent County an Office of considerable Profit to him, it would I think be doing him little Kindness to make him Sheriff since in that Case he must quit the other for they are incompatible & not to be executed by the same Person, however when I have fulfilled my Engagement to the other Gentleman (which was made partly to oblige his Father in Law whose Behaviour in the Lower House of Assembly I had reason to be pleased with & partly as a Reward for his having acted as Clerk to the former Commissioners as well as those now appointed to run the Divisional Lines) I will not forget your Recommendation of M^r Nicholson unless you are Yourself pleased to wave it, to his Behaviour I have no Objection tho indeed he did upon my Arrival here take some Steps to frustrate M^r M^cLocklin's hopes & to get the Office for himself as I could by no means approve of. I will in one of my