

I had opened my Letters that I had his Ld's Orders to appoint him to
the Naval Office of Potestant. I had little Room to suppose he would resign
on any other Consideration than receiving a Commission, for that Office
was there an Opportunity of giving him that Place he must also con-
tinue Attorney Gen. because no such Lawyer as I would recommend
could afford to act as His Ld's Attorney for the present Perquisites &
Fees of that Office. When I acquainted Colo Plater with the Expectations
from him in case he accepted the kind Offer he desired a Day or two to con-
sult into the Profits of the Secretary's Office, & then declared himself unwilling
to accept it, if he must pay more than one fourth part of the Income.
I am a little doubtfull that he has been induced to return me such an
Answer by some who being disappointed themselves have persuaded
him that it is not His Ld's Desire or Expectation that Mr Manning
Successor should make you a more reasonable Return & Remittance
than he did while he remained in that Post. Since the Receipt of
the kind Letter I cannot divest myself of all Suspicion that Colo
Plater dealt a little unfairly with me some time since when he told
me in answer to a hint that I dropt to him that he had made no appli-
cation at all for the Succession of the Secretary's Office. I need not I
presume intimate to you what he would expect who His Ld. to
appoint him to that Place, that you will guess & determine. Thereon
as you shall think proper. You speak in your Letter as if you
had sent your Deputation to Colo Plater but as I could not find
any such Parchment or Paper among the Letters I am apt to think
it was not inclosed in the Box. The best Terms that I could bring
him to consent to were as I above observed to pay one fourth of all
the Fees annually & the like proportion of w^t Money or Presents he
should receive on the ^{conceive} Nomination of County Clerks. such an
Agreement I did not think myself at Liberty to make & indeed
I think that he ought to have offered one third of the Profits at
least. Upon this Account therefore I have declined commissioning
him till I can know of your farther pleasure, but have engaged him
to let the Duty & Business of the Office be executed in the Interim
by the Clerk in his Name, he continues to enjoy the Naval Office