

ved. I wrote again to him & was in hopes that my Letters would have  
reached him soon enough to prevent any Application being made by You  
for that Office. I am very sorry it has happened otherwise because You  
have not only had a great Deal of Trouble unnecessarily but His Grace  
might perhaps think it a little odd tho' such Accidents I am assured have  
often happened. It is not more than two Years ago that some Gentlemen  
belonging to the Treasury I think it was Mr. West obtained for one Mr. Payer  
as I have been informed a Commission to act as Collector of Lewis Town  
District in Delaware in the Stead of the old Collector who was said to  
be then dead, when in fact he did not dye nor relinquish his Office  
till some time after Mr. Payer received his Commission. I have been  
told that Mr. Payer now acts by Virtue of the Commission that was issued  
in his favour before his Predecessors Death: for this Reason & as Mr.  
Payer is pretty far advanced in Years I shall keep the Commission w<sup>ch</sup>  
You transmitted for Mr. Tidout in my hands untill I again hear from  
You or receive Instructions from the Commissioners of the Customs to  
return it: Inclosed I take the Liberty to send You a Letter ad-  
dressed to those Gentlemen which if You approve of its Contents You  
will be pleased to send them or otherwise do therewith as You shall think  
proper. Mr. Walstenholme was in a very bad State of Health about the  
middle of last Winter: but he seems to be now again quite well & may  
probably live a great many Years; besides him there are three other Col-  
lectors in this Province. The Office which one of them enjoys I mean the  
Collectorship of Delaware is much more valuable than that of Pennsylvania  
but the other two together are not worth so much. That of Delaware  
is held by one Mr. Calvert a Gent<sup>l</sup> of our Council who likewise