

enjoy a lucrative Office under the Proprietary to whom he is very nearly related being a Son of the late Lord whose Name he assumed with his Lords Leave a few Years before I arrived in the Province. As He is now a young Man & in good Health there is no great Probability of his Office becoming vacant many Years, & the same might be said of one of the other two which is enjoyed by Mr. Norton Collector of the District of Accomack. The other which brings in little more than the Salary of £60 a Year that is annexed to it & paid out of the Treasury is I think called the Collectorship of Chester & for I perceive it is not entered with the Post in the present State of Great Britain) & is enjoyed by the Rev. Mr. James Sterling for whom I understand it was created a few Years before I left England at the Instance of Mr. Nugent who having promised Mr. Sterling some ecclesiastical Preferment which he was afterwards unwilling or unable to bestow on him fell upon that Method to get quit of him. As this Gentleman is now pretty far advanced in Years & hath been lately much afflicted with the Stone his Death may possibly make a Vacancy within these few Years, but perhaps as his Office was created purposely to serve him it might be thought fit to let it drop at his Decease. Besides the Offices I have mentioned there are four or five Surveyors Places in the Province which in fact are so many Shire Curres, the principal of them exclusive of Houghs are two that are enjoyed at present by Mr. Tasher & his Son, the former of whom is Surveyor of Annapolis by which he gets a Salary of £60 a Year & the latter being Surveyor of Staford receives a Salary of £50. The Reason of my troubling You with so particular an Account of these Offices is that in Case any of them should become vacant & You will be so kind as to forget the