

as I have already intimated, I cannot write fully to You, concerning the
matter till I receive Mr Milkigan's answer. — The Case of Mr Sullivan
who when I arrived in the Province, was Sheriff of Dorchester County was
rich^d Cooper was apprehended, tried for the Murder of a Merchant, after
he was taken into Custody he by a Deed being Date as I understand
he committed, the Deed assigned, or pretended, to assign over to one Mr
of Dover in the County of Sussex, on Delaware, several of his Negroes, who
were thereupon removed from off Cooper's Land, to the Plantation of Vining.
Upon Cooper being convicted of Man Slaughtor the Sheriff Sullivan gave
for the Lord Proprietary all his personal Estate, that could be found in this
Province; hearing that Vining had by some means or other got the Deed
into his Possession he immediately repaired to Sussex & demanded the Slaves
abovementioned, but Vining peremptorily refused to deliver them up, declared
his Resolution to defend his Title, to them & in order thereto immediately
retained Mr Chew the Attorney Gen^l of Pens^a. As Mr Sullivan was sensible
that if the Affair should be brought to a Trial in Sussex Court there was
great Probability of the Jury's giving a Verdict in favour of their Countryman
Vining, notwithstanding it should be made appear that the Conveyance of
the Negroes was really fraudulent; he thought it would be most for his
Prop^r Interest to compromise Matters & to receive a considerable part for his
Prop^r rather than run a Risk of Losing the whole; therefore after some time
he proposed to Vining, that he should keep the Negroes upon paying for
the sum of £ 250 Pens^a Currency, which Offer Vining accepted, but in such
a manner as if he was not induced to do so for want of Proof to make good
his Title, but purely to avoid the Trouble & Expence which a Dispute with
the Lord Proprietary if carried to England by Appeal would be attended with.
Thus stood the Affair for some time, when Mr Goldsborough, having learnt
from a Person who had been concerned in Transacting the Affair between Vi-
ning & Cooper that the Conveyance of the Negroes was certainly fraudulent,
Col^l Lloyd obtained a Writ of Replevin immediately commenced an Action