

took the Liberty to speak of their contents, to which Intimation I thought it my
Duty to give ~~an answer~~ at the same time, that I expressed, such my Apprehensions:
besides as I knew that many people here attached as they are to their own Interest
have looked on Mr. Kidout with an evil Eye, merely because they imagined he would
probably at some time or other stand in the way of themselves or their Relations
& have some Office, or other conferred on him which they may otherwise hope to en-
joy I could not think it very improbable, that either One or other of the Gentlemen
here, with whom You correspond, had taken the Liberty to suggest something
tho I could not guess what to his Disadvantage. I was however very glad to
find by Your Letter dated the 20th of June last & by what You have since wrote
to me that my Apprehensions were groundless & I flatter myself that his conduct
hereafter will confirm the good Opinion His Ldp is pleased to entertain of him, &
that he will find it worth his while to continue in Maryland & devote himself to
His Ldp's Service. I am sorry You should from what I wrote to You the 7th
of July last in answer to Your Letter dated the 17th of March preceding have
concluded that I was affected with what You term the Malady of the Colony
Jealousy, what surprized me was as I then told You the Beginning of Your Letter
but when I had read the whole & from thence discovered that such Beginning was
not so much Your Opinion of any Failure in me, as an Introduction to a Scheme
which some Person here, imagining no doubt it could be carried into Execution
had been pleased to communicate to You, my Surprize & Uneasiness as I told You was
diminished, & tho for my own part I was of Opinion that the Scheme however plausi-
ble, it might appear on paper was not so easy to be executed yet I was by no means
displeas'd that another person should see things in a different Light from myself,
& the more I consider the Matter the more confident am I that were an Attempt to
pursue some parts of it (particularly that wherein 'twas proposed to take, or buy
off some of the Followers in the Lower House) would lay the Foundation of
continual Trouble & Vexation to His Ldp & to whomsoever he might during his
whole Life be pleas'd to honour with the Administration of Affairs in this Province.