

Campbell have made theirs quite airy by opening a Range of Ports on each side between Decks & by that means it seems the Ships were kept healthy tho in one of them were imported more than a hundred & fifty Persons besides the crew. I believe what You write with respect to the Reverend Mr Allen whom I have from his first Arrival here been studious to serve & oblige & am sorry it has not been in my power to provide for him agreeable to his Wishes; that he was not immediately inducted into a more Valuable Parish than this was entirely owing to Himself for acquainted him with the Annual Value as far as I knew of all that were vacant & left it to himself to take which he pleased; His L^{dy} had indeed signified His Desire that in case neither of the best Livings happened to be vacant Mr Allen should hold two of the smaller but that I apprehended he could not do without the Consent of the Vestries under the Act of Assembly made in 1702 & if he could I must thereupon have deposed or ousted one of those who had for some time officiated as Curates for every Parish in the Province was then supplied with a Clergyman & even the Probationers except one or two had in consequence of His L^{dy}s Instructions been promised Inductions. That His L^{dy} was desirous Mr Allen should be provided for & gratified before any one else was very evident to Me but I did not apprehend that His L^{dy} would have one in order to serve that Gentleman take any Step that should be likely to occasion Discontent & afford the Assembly even a Pretence for saying that the Law was dispensed with or violated to that Effect am I confident they will remonstrate whenever two Parishes are bestowed on One Clergyman without the Consent of the Vestries previously obtained, nor have I any doubt but the Vestries will in such Case prevent his being paid in either Parish at least without a Law Suit; nevertheless if Mr Allen is willing to make a Tryal & His L^{dy} please I will oust one of the Probationers whom I purposely have declined inducting & give Mr Allen an Induction also to that Parish. By the List I shall herewith transmit You will see the present Annual Value of the several Livings in the Province; among them are some that are very good but neither of these hath happened to fall since the first Intimation was given Me of His Lordships Desire to provide for Mr Allen, the best that became vacant was St Lukes in Queen Annes County which I kept vacant a long time &