

power to provide for him at this time in any manner whatever, nor
I see how he could unless by employing ^{him} as a man Writer or Copyist
in his office under the Direction of another which would be but a
poor Affair the Register or Chief Clerk being under Engagement to find
all under Clerks, he gets as many as he wants at very low Wages.
Upon this I sent to one Mr Jennings a Lawyer in this place, who I under-
stood from Mr Hackman had heretofore received Instruction from his
Father & asked him if he would, receive the young Man into his Office
as a Clerk to study the Law under his Direction & Care in Case I would
pay for his Board & on his consenting to do so I on my part have engaged
to pay at the Rate of £35 p Ann for his Board & by this Measure, if he has
any Genius & will apply himself he might at the End of four Years become
a Practitioner in our County Courts & be able if he is clever to get much
more by his profession than the Income of any Office His Ldp can bestow
on him & if on Trial he should be found to want Capacity or not apply
himself with sufficient diligence His Ldp might when he comes to Age
& has acquired some knowledge of the Country & of Business order such
Office to be conferred on him as he may be qualified for & a County
Clerkship will probably by that time become vacant. I need not I
suppose tell you that of those Clerkships there are only fourteen which
in case of good Behaviour are enjoyed for Life notwithstanding the
Commission runs only during pleasure & the Secretary considers them as
being entirely at his Disposal & I remember that when I sometime ago
solicited Mr Calvert & afterwards Yourself at the Instance of Mr Leeds
Clerk of Talbot County for Leave for him to resign in favour of his
Son in Law You both referred Me to Mr Dulany in consequence
whereof Mr Leeds dropt all farther Application & as it happened too
lucky he did for his Son in Law is since dead. As to the Sheriff
Officers they are You know by our Act of Assembly tenable for three
Years only & tho some of them if the Sheriff is very active diligent