

Letter Bk. IV whose Office it was expedient & necessary to fill up immediately in order that there might be no Stop or Delay to Business in the Secretary's Office or Provincial Court, I took the Liberty upon what M^r Calvert was pleased to tell me in his Letter dated the 20th of June concerning your Lordships kind Intentions to provide in due time for M^r Ridout to issue a Commission empowering him to act as Deputy Secretary, untill Your Ldp's Pleasure or M^r Calvert's shall be signified to the contrary. As I have in former Letters expressed my opinion of & Regard for M^r Ridout & your Ldp hath been so kind as to destinguish him with so honourable a Mark of Favour on my Recommendation I will not trouble your Ldp with any thing more at present on that head but rest in hopes that your Ldp will also approve of the Step which I have now taken with regard to this Gentleman. Conceiving it also expedient that another Commissioner should be forthwith appointed in the Stead of Col^o Tasker to assist in Carrying into Execution the Articles of Agreement which I lately received from your Ldp I have ordered a Commission for that Purpose to be made out for M^r Ridout who I am satisfied is at least as capable as any Member of the Council of Serving Your Ldp in that Capacity. Unless any unforeseen or extraordinary Accident prevents us we are to meet the Commissioners from Phila^a at Newcastle the 12th of next Month & forthwith proceed to Business. Application having been made for a Transcript from the Record of the Court of Vice Admiralty I was under a necessity of appointing a Judge of that Court in the Room of Col^o Goldsborough & as I am of Opinion that Doctor Steuart who resides in this City would be able to give Satisfaction in that Capacity I have issued a Commission to him to continue during Your Ldp's Pleasure. As there is no Family of any considerable Figure or Influence in the Province who have in general acted a more moderate & respectful Part with regard to your Ldp as well as Myself since I have been honoured with Your Ldp's Commission than the Goldsborough Family I should be glad if your Ldp would be pleased to fill the Seat which is become Vacant in the Council by the Death of Col^o Tasker with One of Them; were they themselves to choose which of the Family should be so destinguish't by Your Ldp I believe their Brother Charles would now be recommended to Favour, & really I think his Abilities are best, He was indeed soon after my Arrival in the Province represented to me in no very favourable Light but I think his Conduct in the Assembly ever since hath been unexceptionable & in Case Your Ldp shall be inclined to remove him into the Upper House, his Son a well disposed & sensible young man who is lately come from the Temple will I dare say be returned a