

hath passed will dwell so much on His Ldps mind as to detract in the least from his happiness. The Day after M^r Hackman arrived I spoke to both M^r Allen & M^r Dan^l Dulany concerning him informing them in what manner & by whom he was recommended to Me to be provided for & telling them that unless One or other could employ him as a Clerk I should be at a loss for the present how to dispose of him. The Answer M^r Allen gave me was that he had retained as a Clerk on a certain Salary by the year a young Man from Virginia a near Relation of M^r Jordans who had earnestly recommended him & that he had no occasion for any other Clerk or Person to assist him in the Business of the Agency, & M^r Dulany told me that it was not in his power to provide for him at this time in any manner whatever, nor do I see how he could unless by employing him as a meer 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 M^r Jennings a Lawyer in this place who I understood from M^r 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^r 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 Tryal 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 M^r Calvert & afterwards yourself at the Instance of M^r Leeds Clerk of Talbot County for Leave for him to resign in favour of his Son in Law you both referred me to M^r Dulany in Consequence whereof M^r Leeds dropt all farther Application & as it happened twas lucky he did for his Son in Law is since dead. As to the Sheriffs Offices they are you know by our Act of Assembly tenable for three years only &