

Letter Bk. IV ought I am of Opinion that he will be under a necessity of keeping an exceeding good & trusty Clerk & such a one cannot in this Place where every thing is extreemly dear be hired for less than £100 a year & possibly the Agent must in Order to bring Matters the sooner under proper Regulation let him have for some time an Assistant; what the Agent's Income might communibus Annis be estimated at I do not know but presume it will well afford such Disbursements.—In case Your Ldp should not think proper to choose Your Agent from among the members that are already of the Council I do not for my own part know any Objection that would lye against the Gentleman whom in my Letter of the 27th of March last I took the Liberty to recommend to the next Seat that might become vacant at that Board, unless this might be deemed one, that he has hitherto resided with me in the Character & manner I mentioned to Your Ldp in that Letter. If it should be thought that this is a Place of great Consequence for one that has never been employed by Your Ldp in one of less Importance, I can only say that that has been his Misfortune, I have more than once expressed an earnest Desire to have it in my Power to bestow one on him, & to convince him as well as the Gentlemen of the Province how much I regard & esteem

p. 94 him. To what I took the Liberty to say to Your Ldp concerning M^r Ridout in my abovementioned Letter I shall only add on the present Occasion that altho he is not possessed of an Estate which might be thought a sufficient Security for the due Discharge of such a Trust as the Agency he can prevail on many Gentlemen of Fortune in the Province to become joint Sureties with him, or if that is not sufficient he has a very nigh Relation in England that hath a Landed Estate in Somersetshire worth upwards of £12.000 Stg who he is persuaded would if Security is required to be given in England become Surety to your Ldp on his Behalf. Should Your Ldp think fit on Consideration of what I have written to approve of him you will be pleased to send me particular Instructions for my own as well as Instructions for his Conduct, or if your Ldp shall think fit to Confer the Agency on another I hope you will be pleased to permit me to bestow some other Office on M^r Ridout as soon as an Opportunity offers—When I begun this Letter I did intend to have wrote to your Ldp concerning some other Matters mentioned in M^r Calvert's last Letters particularly about a Transaction last year on the Borders of Worcester County which it seems the Proprietaries of Pens^a have thought fit to speak of as if it had really given them just Cause of Complaint, but as I fear this Letter of mine will without my making it more prolix be tiresome to Your Ldp I shall communicate what I have to say on that Affair to Your