

In the first Place having made diligent scrutiny and Inquest and by that means thoroughly informed himself of the annual Perquisites of the ten respective Clerks places of this Province he hath taken and seized into his hands three of the best & most Principal places managed by the most expert able and choice Clerks men who had faithfully and diligently served their Majestys been obedient to the Government and well Behaved themselves in their places to the generall Satisfaction of the Country whom he hath discarded upon no other reason or pretence whatsoever that himself can or doth alledys then his own power and prerogative to make a vacancy and supply the same when and as he pleases one of the said Places he has conferred upon his Son under Age to be managed for him by a Deputy whom he brought with him for that purpose another of them he hath conferred upon another of his creatures he brought in with him to be also managed by a Deputy as not at present capable of officiating himself & on the third he hath laid a reserve for whom it is not yet certainly known but as is generally reported and given out to be executed by some mercenary person for his own private use & benefit altho himself at his arrivall was pleased to declare that no Person was to be employed in any of the said Places that could not officiate himself in Person for deputies were in no wise according to his Instructions to be allowed of and under that Pretence with his own Authority aforesaid displaced the three aforesaid most Considerable Clerks others of the old Clerks he has treated with and of all demands an acct of their perquisites since the date of his Commission for which he pretends they are to be accountable to him and not only but must pay <sup>him also</sup> considerably for their Commissions which he hath extorted as by copy of some Depositions inclosed will appear to your Lordships notwithstanding by the express words of his Commission he is no longer nor no otherwise Secretary then during the Kings pleasure and his Residence in this Province notwithstanding also his said Commission positively forbids the making Sale of any the said places or any other profit thereby then the reseroation of the tenth part of the annual Incomes to be estimated by the Governor and Council upon a vacancy and no more