

Box 1
Folder 10

Dear Sir,

Wexburgh 25th June 1760

I have perused all the Papers relative to the Brafferton Affairs with as much care and Attention as their Prolixity and Dullness would admit of: And I can not but think upon the whole that not only Thompson the present Steward but his Predecessors too have customarily made greater Advantages of that Office, than they would have openly appear. Mess^{rs} Hanbury, I find, wrote Mr. Corleus that he thought he ought to render an A/c^t of what his Father, R. Corleus had rec^d. & did not acc^t for in his Life Time, he accordingly renders an A/c^t ~~of~~ a small Bal^l due, & at the same Time mentions some other Profits his Father had rec^d. from the Wood &c. which he looked upon as Part of his usual Perquisites, and therefore had not accounted for, but ~~if~~ (if insisted on) he would make an A/c^t. This would make it perhaps worth while to consider whether it would not be convenient to give ~~the~~ Mess^{rs} Hanbury with their Deputy for a certain Sum (suppose more than has hitherto been allowed) and take from him all Perquisites whatever, as there is no Possibility of knowing how much they make under that secret Article. I must believe it to be very considerable, since the two Competitors for the Office are one of em a Gentleman of Fortune and in that Respect com^{es} to the Approbation of Mess^{rs} Hanbury by his Friends, & the other an Attorney at Law. Now, can it be thought that a Gent^l of considerable Fortune, or an Att^l who generally knows how to employ his Time pretty advantageously in the Law Way, would make such busy Interest for an Office of twenty Pounds p^a Year, which I find is their allowed Salary? There are other Circumstances (which it is not worth while to mention) that corroborate this Suspicion. As this then is the Case, I cannot esteem it inconsistent either with Justice or Honor to give that Power to Mess^{rs} Hanbury they desire. As to the appointing of a Deputy (who they desire may be nominated by the R^{ts} & M^{rs})

