

ferry's the same sum that is paid for conveying a mail the same distance by land?

The rider between Norfolk and Suffolk is paid £25 Virg'a money p^a ann. This office accounts with Williamsburg.

Hampton's the Port of entry for Norfolk, the masters of ships entering there, seldom deliver their letters at the Post office at this place; if any letters are brought up in the Vessel they are thrown down on a Table in a Tavern or Coffee house, for every man to pick out his own.

It is here said that the mails from the Northward are brought to them in a round about tedious way, and the people complain of it as a grievance.

They say that by the way of the Eastern shore of Maryland, Philadelphia is but 248 miles distant, and the present Post route is 400. It is agreed that the Bay of Chesapeak may be at times a great hindrance to the Post's speed this way, yet 'tis allow'd in general that the shortness of the route far outweighs that objection for the boats that ply across the bay are very fine, and will never be stop'd thrice in a year by bad weather. By this route they can have their advices 8 days sooner than by the present post road. It is also said there are many counties, on the Eastern shore, unaccommodated with Posts; Trading countys to encrease the revenue. The deputy show'd me letters that had been lying for sometime in the office, directed for the Collector and Comptroller of Accomack, but he had no way of forwarding them.

I saw Mr Fleming, the former deputy of Suffolk, he says he put all these affairs into McMurdo's possession, and he is gone to the West Indies; so that this debt whatever it may be appears desperate, for Fleming is a poor man.