

Calvert
Papers. possess persons of any Surplusage Land w^h they hold by Patents in w^h such Land is described by Natural Boundaries, tho the Patent shou^d err considerably in the Numbers of Acres contained therein” The Dispossession is difficult & will be very Expensive to force from those who hold Surplus tracts of Land under Extensive old Patents, who as you observe “Will never Resurvey the same upon the Conditions that are at present insisted on by the Agent before he Grants Warrant of Resurvey as he requires the Arrerages of such Surplus from the date of the Patent” The Remedy you propose to adjust between My Lord & such Tenants seems to me prudent & judicious Viz^t “to Permit the Patentee to have Warrant of Resurvey for his Land upon condition he shall pay for the Surplus henceforward at the Original reserved Rent” It will be an immediate Increase of his Lord^{ps} Revenue by Quit Rent much to his Advantage, & will set out the vacant Land not granted in the County. But of this matter for the present, has from hence no Direction, you informing on Consultation with M^r Lloyd you will write more particular thereon.

Concern^s Indian Lands on the East shore, reference to the Acts for Quieting the Possessions of the Indians inhabiting on Nanticoke & Choptank Rivers. Section the 1st “The Nanticoke Indians shall peaceably Possess all that tract of Land . . . as long as they shall occupy the same . . . But they shall not sell or Lease the same” The Choptank Indians shall peaceably Possess the Land surveyed for them so long as they shall occupy the same Section 2^d they shall not sell or lease it except (3^{dh}) No lease to be longer than 7 years. The Acts point Co^mmiss^{rs} to Survey & ascertain the bounds of these Indians possessions My Lord desires you will require as his Orders to the Land office to Report to you How these Indian Lands be at present Q^{re} if Indians upon the Premises if few, whether worth his Purchase to have their right & to Establish Inhabitants, making the Lands occupy’d Properties & thereby prevent Illegal Setlers? These Lands by scituation are near the dispute of the 3 Lower Counties if by Perchase the Mess^{rs} Penns can take Advantage they will, therefore My Lord desires your care & consideration to obtain him Possession of the Lands, if Material & in Safe-Guard & good Policy ag^t the Pensilvanian Enchroachm^{ts} who on the East Shore are in Possession of a Considerable Country, in so much, I Question if there be an Inlet as a Sea Port for Maryland on that Shore towards the Atlantick Ocean. Espically if the Division Line be allowed to commence East from Fenwick Island. Besides great Care is to be had ag^t their claim of Prior settlem^t it seems a Maxim of Right Guarrenteed them by the Minets taken of the present Lord Chancellor’s opinion on hearing the cause bet: them &