

[Extract of letter of Calvert to Sharpe.]

M^r Lloyd has sent three Books as Rent Rolls of Ann Arundel Cōty Charles County & Calvert County for the year 1753 certified from the Land Office but no way answering to the Form sent M^r Tasker by me & enforced by a special Instruction from the Lord Proprietor's Guardians in May 1752 which Form was intended to satisfy the Lord Proprietor of the particulars of his several Landed Incomes in Maryland & the several Tenures they are held under, whether in fee or on Leases for Lives & for what Lives or for Terms & for what Terms of years so respectively held, to which M^r Lloyd has been referred to each of these Books after the Certificate of them from the Land Office being signed a Memorandum is inserted of Rents of Lands paid for but could not find them because the Original Takers up were not known. This ought therefore to be particularly enquired into that the present possessors who pay for them may shew by what Title they hold them which will make the Original Takers of them up to be found in the Land Office as no Lands can be legally held but by Grants from that Office this I have noted to M^r Lloyd as also other Observations arising which want Explanation.

I herewith send you Instructions from My Lord with a Copy thereto annexed of the Form sent in May 1752 for stating His Lordship's Landed Revenues by, in order to have proper Returns perfected agreeable to His Lordship's Expectation. In which Instructions you are to require not only the Officer or Officers of the Land Office but also the Rent-Roll Keepers who are paid for being Controlls on the Collectors to examine & sign the several Rolls, & to be so signed in your presence that the Seal of the Province may be affixed thereto in testimony of such their Signatures before you. These Rent Rolls when once compleated & return'd the Additions or Alterations in them which may happen in subsequent years will be only necessary to be annually made appear under the like Authenticity for proving the Rectitude of the Agent & Receiver General's Yearly Accompts to be transmitted. As the Rent Rolls of the Western Shore may be forthwith made out as required to give my Lord the Satisfaction he has so long expected. Let them be immediately proceeded upon by the proper Directions to be given by you under My Lord's Authority for that purpose; & in their Progress let them be brought before you to see that they are in a right Method to give My Lord the knowledge of his several Reserved Rents & how they have arisen & do arise & are held. And the Rent-Rolls of the Eastern Shore you are to direct to be made out in like manner with all possible Dispatch under your Inspection for the Rectitude of their method in making them out to