

Letter Bk. I. so discovered according to the Conditions proposed in the Proclamation, but were disappointed by the Attorney General's (M<sup>r</sup> Delany) being obliged to drop many Bills which He had filed in Chancery for the Recovery of such Surplusage; the Alienation of the Original Tract (w<sup>ch</sup> was laid out by metes & Bounds & not by Course & Distance) in numerous Parcels, making it impossible to decree from which & in what manner the Surplusage should be taken; besides the People at present  
 p. 23 in many Counties appear so earnest in removing all possibility of Dispute about the Land they are in possession of that there seems no great need of a Proclamation to incite Them to apply for Warrants of Resurvey.

By the Constant Cultivation of Tobacco which in its nature impoverishes Land in an extraordinary degree His Ldp's Manours will receive great detriment if we cannot fall on some method to prevent it by inserting in the Leases some penal Clause whereby the Tenants may be restrained to planting only a certain number of Acres the three last years of their Term, unless they will renew their Lease so long before its expiration but as I am forbid by my Instructions to set the Manours for a longer Term than 21 years I could not propose putting any thing of this Sort in execution till I shall be favoured with His Ldp's farther Commands.

The Laws passed last Session are yet in the Press. but I have sent Copies of the journals of both Houses & of two Bills which the Lower House had prepared, but referred to the Consideration of next Session, when I beleive they will be pushed with some Earnestness. that for the Regulation of the Clergy was occasioned by the scandalous Behaviour of some of that Rank, over whom His Ldp may think proper to exert his Auidority, lest the Example of their Lives should lessen the  
 p. 24 influence of the whole Order; at this time one Parson Cook after escaping with great difficulty the fate of a Murtherer receives as punctually his 30 p<sup>r</sup> Poll in Prison as if he was duly attending the Duty of his function, such Instances as this I shall endeavour to prevent for the future by taking Bonds for good Behaviour from the Clergy before Presentation—in that other Bill “for preventing the farther growth of Popery” I am persuaded many things will appear to you somewhat extravagant; but I should be glad to receive your Advice what notice I might take of a more moderate Bill if offered respecting Persons of that profession.

A Lett<sup>r</sup> from the Lords of Trade commanding us as well as the neighbouring Colonies to send Commissioners to a Treaty with the Indians at Albany this Summer had occasioned my summoning the Assembly in May, to grant the Commiss<sup>s</sup> an Allowance for their Expences and a present for those Indian