

the Chancellor as well as the Surveyor & Agent are privy to it & for my own Part I have always made it a Rule (tho some Errors in old Patents shew my Predecessors did not) to examine every patent that is offered to me before I sign it & see that the Quit Rents thereby reserved are rightly calculated. As to the Agent both the Judges of the Land Office as well as the Chancellor are a Check upon him with respect to the Caution Money that is paid for every Tract of Land that is granted & it is I understand a constant Rule for the Judges to review that Article or Part of the Agents Accounts & to certify to Your Ldp annually that upon Examination they find it just & true. Having endeavoured to explain to Your Ldp how Business is transacted in the Land Office & after what method that part of Your Ldp's Revenue (I mean the Selling of Vacant Lands) is managed, which according to my Notion might be well executed by any Person of Common Understanding that would properly attend to it; I will take the Liberty to point out what in my Eye appear to be principal Objections to the Scheme that M<sup>r</sup> Calvert proposes: In the first place were no Warrants for Land to be issued untill the Lieu<sup>t</sup> Governor & both Judges of the Land Office had signed them it would be absolutely necessary that every one of them should constantly reside at & be present in Annapolis, or else People that may apply for Warrants would be detained in Town at a considerable Expence till the Lieu<sup>t</sup> Governor & Judges should all meet there or at least till every one should come thither to Sign such Warrant; besides such Signing of Warrants would be no Sort of Security ag<sup>st</sup> Fraud: & if it is meant that they should All attend or be present when the Caution or purchase money is paid to the Agent, neither of them would have a Moment that they could call their own, since the Agent's Office is ever open, & it is always uncertain when or how soon Application might be made by some Person or other for Land Warrant.—The next Article or Part of Your Ldp's Revenue which I shall take into Consideration is the mannours & these may in my opinion be brought into Order, at least under much better Regulation than they are at present, tho indeed this is not the Work of a Day; I have often mentioned this matter to Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd but as he seldom spends a Day in Annapolis & his Attention & Thoughts are so engrossed by his own Affairs I have long despaired of seeing any Plan for their better Regulation carried into Execution. I need not I presume tell your Ldp that there are Persons under the Denomination of Stewards who have been from time to time authorized & instructed by your Ldps Agent & his Predecessors in that Office to superintend the several Mannours, to parcel them out to such as were willing to

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