

other Maryland Commissioners were apprized of it as well as Letter Bk. IV  
They themselves were, but Col<sup>o</sup> Henry & M<sup>r</sup> Ross who acted  
then as Commissioners, & M<sup>r</sup> Malcolm who attended as an  
Assistant say they do not remember that the Matter was ever  
mentioned to them or taken into Consideration. Be that as it  
will Your Ldp has not I understand suffered any Detriment  
by that Line having been run in such a manner for tho by  
that means the Middle Point of it may be several Perches  
more South than it ought (that is to the Southward of the  
Point where it was begun) yet as that Part of Iames's Island  
where it happened to terminate is some Perches more East-  
erly than is That part of the Island where the Line would have  
terminated had it not deviated or declined from a Parallel of  
Latitude, what is now fixed to be the exact Middle of the  
Peninsula in that part is really to the Eastward of the True p. 151  
Middle Point & consequently Your Ldp will gain one way  
what was lost another, but as I have already observed was the  
Northern Line to be run after the same manner (that is by  
setting off at Right Angles from some Meridian & ranging  
the Tops of a Number of Stakes or plumbed staves in a  
straight Line) there would be no Chance of Your Ldp's gain-  
ing any thing but you must unavoidably suffer great Loss to  
wit the Land contained in such a Triangle as I have above  
mentioned & indeed from what I can see there is a greater  
probability of any Error that may be committed in running  
that north Boundary being to Your Ldp's Prejudice than  
in your favour for which reason it is the more expedient &  
of greater Consequence that a true method or Scheme be  
procured & pursued. Altho the Commissioners did at their  
late Meeting agree upon a Method for discovering & deter-  
mining the Course of the Tangent Line & the point of Con-  
tact, yet I have among the other Queries stated some relative  
to that matter as the Answers of able Mathematicians thereto  
may possibly be of some use, or if we have adopted a good  
Scheme it will give us some Satisfaction to know that it meets  
with the Approbation of the Skillful. As it is of very great  
Consequence to Your Ldp that the Point from which the  
North Boundary may be begun lyes no more than barely 15  
Statute Miles South from Phila<sup>a</sup> It would give me & the  
other Commissioners great Satisfaction to know what Method  
able Mathematicians would recommend as the best & most  
accurate way of finding that Point whether by Astronomical  
Observations or by actual Mensuration, & if the Latter is  
thought best, by what Methods & Instruments the Mensura-  
tion must be made. As I apprehend that the Surveyors will  
not by reason of the weather be able to resume their Work  
again before the 10<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> of April next, & that they will