

Letter Bk. I. utmost Endeavours to clear up every thing & I assure you it has cost me Abundance of time & trouble to bring the Rent Roll to this exactness. If you compare this with the Roll which was some time since transmitted by M^r Ross You will observe that some of the Tracts are in mine called by different names from what they were in his which is owing to the Possessors having either miscalled them or changed their names since the Patents issued, the inclosed List will shew where this has happened to that therefore I beg Leave to refer You With the Rent Roll you will also receive Copies of the Platts of His Ldps mannours that have been returned to me by the Surveyors & Stewards in pursuance of the Orders that I long ago sent them Some of them have as you will see punctually obeyed such Instructions & others have been less particular & exact; by way of Excuse for this they tell me that it was not in their power to discover the Beginning or Bounds of the several Tenements there being neither the originals nor Copies of the Leases to be found. I have already observed to you that the Mannors have never been managed after so regular & orderly a Method as they ought some of the

p. 295 Leases have been Lodged with the Agent & of others he has not even seen Copies. Many of the Stewards have been heretofore extreemly negligent & some of them resided at so great a Distance from the Mannours which they were appointed to take Care of that perhaps they never or very seldom saw them, & indeed the Sallaries allowed were too small to encourage a Person of Credit to undertake that Duty or to induce any one to execute it with Dilligence. I have often mentioned this to Col^o Lloyd & told him that I thought we were sufficiently impowered to allow the Stewards any Reward that we should think reasonable & said it was my opinion that by giving away a small Sum for good Stewards at this time His Ldp would in the End be a Gainer seeing it might be expected that the mannours would be better managed & in all probability better tenanted. My first Proposition should be that instead of permitting the Steward to hold a Tenement Rent free by way of Sallary he should be allowed a larger Commission on the Annual Rents that might be received for when a Steward is not sufficiently interested in getting the whole mannour setled & the Rents duly paid it is not likely that he will be very sollicitous to get good Tenants. The Steward or Agent should I think keep a Book by way of Record for every mannour wherein all Leases for or Agreements concerning Parcells of such Mannour should be duly entered & also a proper & particular Description of every Tract or parcell that should be leased or Tenanted, if this Rule had been heretofore observed I should not have found such Diffi-