

Letter Bk. IV which will probably be a Fund of much Contention at future Sessions I think it my Duty to observe to you that upon my saying one Day when the last mentioned Bill was on the Carpet that His Lordship conceived he had a Right to a Fine on granting Ordinary Lycences M^r Dulany declared that for his part he had no Idea of a Right without a Remedy & that he could not see how His Ldp could support any Claim or Pretensions to such an Emolument. Such being the Doctrine which is generally received in the Province there is not I am afraid any great probability of the questions being speedily determined here in a manner advantageous to either His Lordship or yourself, but you may depend on my adhering to the Instructions which have been given me with respect to that matter. In my Letter dated the 10th of Nov^r I informed you that in Expectation of the Arrival of Mess^{rs} Mason & Dixon before the End of that month the Commissioners appointed to carry the Articles of Agreement relative to the Dividing Lines into Execution had agreed to meet at Phila^a the 30th of that month. the said Gentlemen having before that Day notified to us their arrival, Mess^{rs} Ridout Leeds Barclay Steuart & one M^r Jenifer a Gentleman of this place whom as I found there was no probability of our ever prevailing on Colonel Lloyd to attend another meeting I had appointed in his stead, repaired to Phila^a the morning after the Assembly broke up. As to myself I had for some weeks had such a Cough as confined me to my Room which however I have at length got quit of & M^r Bordley having been also sometime much indisposed it would have been very imprudent for either of us to venture so far from home as Phil^a at such a Season. M^r Dulany having as I intimated to you some time ago declined acting at all as a Commissioner which in Truth is a very disagreeable Office & M^r Bordley having a few Months ago been sensibly affected with a Stroke of the Palsy I shall before the next meeting substitute his Brother the Clerk of Baltimore County in his stead so that we may at all times without difficulty make a quorum & on any particular occasion have as many Commissioners able to attend a Meeting as can attend on the part of the Proprietors of Pennsylvania. As what M^r Ridout took the Liberty to write to you from Phila^a the 13th Inst is quite agreeable to my own Sentiments I need not now repeat them but shall by this Opportunity send you a Duplicate of the State or Representation which he then transmitted hoping you will favour me with your answer relative to the proposition for ascertaining the Tangent Line as soon as possible, for if your answer does not come to hand by the 15th of June next Mess^{rs} Mason & Dixon are to go down to the Middle point in order to run up another