

just about to sail hence for London I embrace the Opportunity to transmit you a few more Sheets of the Acts of Assembly now printing here from the Manuscript Copy or Collection made by M^r Bacon & also two Petitions which have been presented to me by one Solomon Holton & the Relict of the Reverend M^r Harrison late Rector of S^t Lukes Parish in Queen Ann's County. As Colonel Richard Tilghman in whose Neighbourhood Holton has lived many years represents him to be an honest inoffensive Man & tells me that he really thinks the County Court was much too severe in imposing so heavy a Fine on him for only being a Spectator of an Act of Cruelty (for committing which the Justice was fined a hundred Pounds) I recommend the Petitioner so far to His Ldp's Clemency as that two Thirds of the Fine if not the whole might be remitted. As to the Petition of M^{rs} Harrison on behalf of her Son an Infant I can only say that it was I apprehend in a great measure owing to M^r Harrison's own Dilitoriness that he did not obtain a Lease on Lives for the Land mentioned in the Petition before His Lordships prohibition to granting Mannour Leases for a longer Term than Twenty one years was received & published here, but at the same time as the then Steward of the Mannour seems to have been to blame also, & M^r Harrison who was a Person of the most upright behaviour & in every respect a worthy good Man has left his Widow (a Woman of great Merit) & a young Family in Distress or at least poorly provided for, I should be glad if His Ldp would shew her some favour by ordering a Lease to be granted to the Orphan on the old Conditions with this exception that instead of the Terms being for three Lives it may be only for a certain Number of years. Mess^{rs} Mason & Dixon are still at the Line they were employed on when I last wrote to you, at sixty Miles from the Middle Point it passed about Nine Feet Eastward of the Termination of the Offsett they had there made so that they expect this Line will fall about Twenty feet Eastward of the Tangent Point & that they will have finished it before the End of this Month when the Commissioners are to meet & examine what they shall have done in pursuance of the Instructions that have been given them. By a Paper inclosed which is a Copy of one they some Months ago gave the Commissioners you will perceive that after all that D^r Bevis has said about the practicability of their actually describing a Parallel of Latitude on the Earth with the large complex Transit Instrument you were pleased to send to Philadelphia for their use The two Surveyors are clearly of opinion that such a Thing is impracticable & therefore intend to use only the small Transit Instrument they brought with them & instead of actually running or describing