

hold their Tenements or whether he would choose in case of their Refusal to take Leases on such or any other Terms that Ejectments be brought against them & the Affair prosecuted throughout, I have been lately informed that one Maypother some time ago an Officer in the Austrian Service & now at Philad<sup>a</sup> hath been lately on the Mannour endeavouring to persuade the people that he has a Right to it, & to induce them to take Leases from him, & it is said that upon his offering them their own Terms & shewing them some Writings which he said would establish his Claim many of them were inclined to attorn to him in which Case there will probably be soon an End to His Ldp's receiving any Rents from that Mannour without a Law suit so that It would I think be well to consider what Steps are to be taken here or at home if Matters should take such a Turn, & as I sometime ago transmitted you all the Intelligence I could procure with respect to the Mannour in question you will be able to submit a full & clear State to the perusal of any Gentleman whom His Ldp might think fit to consult on the Affair. I have communicated to Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd His Ldp's pleasure signified by his Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>y</sup> concerning Solomon Holtons Fine, & the Lease applied for on behalf of the Son of the late Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Harrison of Queen Anns County & have desired him to have such a Lease made out as His Ldp is pleased to direct. You say in your Lett<sup>r</sup> of the 16<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> that by Intelligence from the Province M<sup>r</sup> Lloyd is accused of negligence in suffering the County Clerks to record Deeds before Alienation Fine paid; the Clerks have had Orders to see that such Fines are duly paid, but I have heretofore observed to you that the Recording them is not essentially necessary to make some Deeds valid, such for Instance as Deeds of Lease & Release & then the Alienation Fine is not probably often paid, nor is it in Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyds power to get it as he cannot directly know the Transaction, however it might not perhaps be amiss to direct M<sup>r</sup> Dulany who as Your Deputy has the Appointment of the County Clerks to give them & also the Clerk of the Provincial Court positive Instructions not to record any Deed whatever until the Alienation Fine shall be paid & once a year to return for the Agents Inspection a brief List or Minute of the several Deeds by them recorded in the Course of the year, the Reason this Order should go from the Secretary & not the Agent is that they are not in any respect dependant on the latter or obliged to regard his Requisitions. We had heard long before Your Letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> of March came to hand the Account you therein give me of the Regard which the Parliament had paid, to the Memorials & Remonstrances which had been transmitted from the Colonies against