

vince will be a happy Event for the Province & silence the Clamour that has now subsisted here for more than Thirty years against a Proprietary Government I doubt not but His Ldp will be as willing as any Member of the Lower House to bring the Matter to a Hearing before the Judges they have appealed to, & I am persuaded no Attention or Address will be wanting on your part in the Management of a Cause of such Consequence to His Ldp & Those who may under His Ldp be any ways concerned in the Administration of the Government. Letter Bk.IV

In Bacons Collection of the Laws of this Province of which I sometime ago sent you two or three Copies there is One "for Quieting Possessions Enrolling Conveyances & securing the Estates of Purchasers" which was made in the year 1715, to this which did not it seems, extend to all Conveyances a Supplementary Act has been made this Session of which I shall herewith transmit a Copy for His Ldps Consideration & yours, it being of such a Nature that I know not whether it will receive His Ldp's Assent. I need not I suppose inform you that by All the Patents for Land which have been granted here for many years past a Proviso is inserted that on every Transfer or Conveyance of such Land One years Rent shall be paid to the Ld Proprietary under the Denomination of an Alienation Fine, The Upper House of Assembly attending to such Proviso when a similar Bill with that now passed for a general Registry of all Deeds was sent them proposed as an Amendment thereto that "His Ldps Alienation Fine should be paid previous to every Deeds being recorded. Such Amendment however the Lower House would not admit & the Bill thereupon dropt which would have been the Fate of this also had the same Amendment been proposed & therefore the Upper House determined to pass it without any Apprehending the Bill to be very necessary & beneficial to the Country & in this respect advantageous to His Ldp that His Agent & Rent Roll Keepers will now have Notice from the Provincial & County Clerks of every Conveyance that may be made & not only know to whom the Rents on such Lands ought to be charged but also by whom the Alienation Fine thereon ought to be paid. The only Question seems to be how Payment of the Alienation Fine is to be compelled after the Deed shall be recorded, this Matter M<sup>r</sup> Dulany says is properly cognizable in the Chancery Court, the Fine not being recoverable at Common Law, & that upon Information or Bill filed the Chancery Court can & ought to give a Decree tho the Rent in question should be ever so small: if this be the Case then the Act is doubtless on every Account desirable & if such Opinion should be given His Ldp will I presume