

would answer no End for us to attend on the Day we had advertized for its Sale; so circumstanced & unprepared to give the People who might apply satisfactory Information what Step could we take but to call on M^r Calvert either to give under his Hand what he had said in Conversation with M^r Dulany or to let us know what Claim he pretended to have so that we might consider how to answer the People on that head against the Day of Sale & when we found by his Letter that he was so far from being willing to give Us the Answer we wanted & had Reason to expect we could not proceed to the Sale with the least Probability of selling the Mannour & therefore put it off till we could procure from England the Settlements which were said to have been made tho nobody here was acquainted with the nature or whole Design of them. As you will before this comes to hand have received a joint Letter from the Commissioners with a State or proposition drawn up by M^r Dulany I need not now tell you that the Claim M^r Calvert setts up is of such a nature that he cannot at present take any legal Steps to support it. 'Twill be time enough for me or my Representative says he to sue for the Mannour in case of His Ldp's dying without a Male Heir & this Suggestion alone will be still sufficient to hurt if not to prevent the Sale tho in Obedience to His Ldps Orders the Commissioners have agreed to advertize it again putting off however the Day of Sale to the Beginning of June by which time an answer might probably be received to our joint Letter. The Surveyors being now employed in surveying & platting several of the other Mannours We propose to advertize them also successively for Sale as soon as possible. As neither M^r Jordan nor I can pretend to understand the power & operation of Settlements or the Niceties of Law so well as our Associate in the Commission we must with regard to such Matters depend much upon him & as many of the Purchasers will desire an Assurance from him that a Conveyance made by Virtue of His Ldps Commission to us will be a good & effectual Bar for ever to all Persons whatever It is quite necessary that M^r Dulany be fully satisfied so that he may not hesitate to give a clear Opinion otherwise the Mannours will not I am afraid sell at a price equal to their Value & to His Ldps Expectations. As you speak of the Information which had been given His Ldp with respect to Talbot Mannour as if other Persons had been more attentive to His Interests & ready to give Information of His Agents Neglect than any of His Ldps Officers who are in Duty bound to do so I could not help observing to My Lord that I had mentioned the Affair to him & so long ago as the 10th of July 1765 given M^r Calvert a more particular Account of the Measures taken by