

become due the Ld Proprietary may be at liberty to enter & sell the Land to another Person ; If His Ldp thinks the Vacant Land is at present sold on too easy Terms I should advise the Raising the Caution Money from £5 p^r 100 Acres to £7 10 rather than Raising the Quit Rents, if he chooses to make the Experiment an Instruction must be sent the Agent to that Effect & entered in the Land Office as it will make an Alteration in the present Condition of Plantations. Since His Ldp hath sent in Powers & Instructions for the Sale of his Mannours no new Leases have been granted except to those for whom Tenements had been before surveyed or laid out nor have any Leases for a longer Term than Twenty one years been lately granted except for Tenements on Talbot Mannour & some very poor Land in the Reserve in Baltimore County & should not the Mannours be all sold according to His Ldps Instructions He might depend that no Lease will be granted for the future for a longer Term than Twenty one years. By the Copy I sent you of the Minutes of the late Proceedings of the Commissioners appointed to have the Dividing Lines run you would see that they had thought it necessary to obtain the Indians Consent before the Surveyors proceeded to extend the East & West Line beyond the Alleghanny Mountains in Consequence of this Opinion & their Agreement S^r William Johnson was desired to make Application to the Indians which he is now doing & will 'tis expected at the Expence of £300 stg prevail on them to give their Consent to the Lines being extended tho he thinks they will raise some Difficulties & that the Running such Line without their Consent previously obtained would certainly have been productive of ill Consequences. If S^r William Johnson succeeds in his Negotiation the Surveyors will be ordered to proceed with the Line as soon as the Season will permit otherwise We shall I suppose discharge them as soon as the Stones or Obelisks you give me Room to expect here very shortly can be set up. I have in Pursuance of His Ldp's pleasure noted M^r Rob^t Harrison for the next Sheriff of Dorchester County & inducted the Rev^d M^r Allen at his own Request into this Parish which altho it is of less Value than two others that were vacant on the Eastern Shore he preferred to either of them, & as soon as a better Living on this Side the Bay becomes vacant which will I expect be the Case very shortly I shall make M^r Allen an Offer of it. His Ldp intimated indeed that till I should have an Opportunity of inducting M^r Allen into one of the best he might hold two of the less valuable Livings but that you will see by the Act of 1702 Chap 1 Sec 16 could not be without the Consent of the Vestries, which they would never give. Upon the Receipt of His Ldps

Letter Bk. IV