

Letter Bk.IV received & presented so opportunely, whatever Occasion might have been taken from the Proceedings of the Boston People & the Assembly of New York to represent all the Colonies as ready to set up for Independancy I am persuaded few People here entertain such a Thought & I can assure you that those Assemblies had very few Advocates in this part of the Continent. I delivered the Power of Attorney from the late Anthony Rhodes's Sisters to M<sup>r</sup> Ridout who will endeavour to transact the Business entrusted to him with all possible Dispatch & I shall either by Capt Love's or some other early Ship send His Ldp two Pipes of the oldest Wine I ordered hither on his Account. When Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd last attended the Commissioners we went through & examined his principal Accounts but could not close them finally by reason some Returns of Alienation Fines & of Fines & Forfeitures could not be exhibited & some Arrears of Quit-Rents were still due from the Farmers, We are however to meet again the latter End of this Month in order to finish that Business & where Suits are brought or Compulsory Means are to be used we shall I suppose Report the Sum due & leave it to be accounted for by the Agent as soon as the same shall be recovered in due Course of Law. Having in pursuance of His Ldps Instructions advertised the Sale of Ann Arundel Mannour to be as on the first of this Month M<sup>r</sup> Dulany M<sup>r</sup> Jordan and I attended at the place appointed & ordered some of the Tenements to be set up at from Twenty to Twenty five Shillings p<sup>r</sup> 100 Acres but no Person would bid tho many of the Tenants & some others were present. We gave the Tenants notice therefore that since they declined bidding for their respective Tenements the Mannour would be soon set up in Lots of four or five hundred Acres that it might be worth the while of Gentlemen above their Rank to purchase, but I am afraid that it will never sell for near its Value as few People choose to buy Land of which they cannot have the immediate possession & Use, & from this they could not till the Leases expire receive any Benefit farther than the Annual Reserved Rent, which would not be legal Interest for their Money. As I intend to return hither by the Way of Baltimore Town from the Meeting of the Commissioners at Chester the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst I will then make Enquiry after the M<sup>r</sup> Bury said to keep School in that place & if I find he is worthy & I can do him any Service I will not fail to do so. The Person appointed by Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd to act as his Deputy in this Place on the Death of M<sup>r</sup> Ross is Major Jenifer whom I sometime ago appointed one of the Justices of the Provincial Court & on whose behalf I likewise took the liberty to write to you. The Vacant Land contiguous to M<sup>r</sup> Middleton's & the Prison in this City of which you