

Letter Bk. IV relative to the Land in Baltimore County commonly called My Lady's Mannour. There hath not been any Instance that I can find of a Patents being vacated by reason of the Quit Rents being made payable in Corn or being less than was at the time of such Patent's Date reserved on other Tracts tho the Rent Rolls & Records shew that many large Tracts granted before the Revolution are subjected to only a trifling Quit Rent payable in Wheat Corn Capons &c. What was the Quit Rent reserved or intended to have been reserved on that Mannour no one here can tell nor whether a Patent for it was ever signed, but altho it should be found that a Patent was really signed, is it not invalid? Since by the Law of England no Person the King only excepted can otherwise than by Will give to his Wife any Land or Real Estate. The Chesterfield Man of War which was to have sailed from Virginia last June with the Trade then bound to Europe having been lost on her Passage from N York to the Havanna the Susanna Capt Arbuckle in which I shipt a Pipe of Madeira & some Hams for His Ldp is I find still in Virginia waiting for Convoy, by which Delay I am afraid the Hams will be spoil'd, but the Wine will I expect be the better for being so long on board. Having since I wrote to His Lordship the 21<sup>st</sup> of June procured from a Gentleman of this Place four Dozen Bottles of old & excellent Madeira I have committed the same to the Care of Capt Craymer Commander of a Vessel belonging to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Steuart & Campbell who has promised on his Arrival in London to send the Wine to Your House & I beg the favour of You to present it in my Name to His Ldp. The Surveyors having by Letter dated the 29<sup>th</sup> Ult signified to me that they expected to finish about the 14<sup>th</sup> Inst. the Line they have been running for a Tangent (which however at the time they wrote they expected would fall about a hundred Perches to the Eastward of the Extremity of the Radius run last November from Newcastle) M<sup>r</sup> Ridout M<sup>r</sup> Leeds D<sup>r</sup> Steuart & M<sup>r</sup> Barclay are gone thither to meet the Pennsylvania Commissioners & agree on what is further to be done pursuant to the Articles of Agreement & Commission sent us. As Experience hath taught us that it is extremely difficult & tedious if not impossible to run a Line of any considerable Length exactly true with Plumb Lines or Staves, & D<sup>r</sup> Bevis seems confident that the Parallel of Latitude or Northern Boundary can be easily & truly described by the Transit Instrument for which Governor Hamilton & I applied to His Ldp & the Proprietors of Pennsylvania last October I presume none of the Commissioners will choose to proceed on the Northern Boundary until that Instrument arrives, but they will probably lay out as much of the Circle round Newcastle as may be