

Letter Bk. IV indeed a great part of our Wheat Flour & other produce is now carried the price there being always higher than in Maryland owing to the vast Trade carried on from thence to the West Indies & other Parts; As the Merchants there can always load their Vessels at once they can afford to give more for the Cargoes than Merchants in this Province can give, because ours must be a long time collecting a Cargo for even a small Vessel there being no Town or Port in Maryland where any considerable quantity of Country Produce can be purchased at once or together. This being the Case & no Probability of an Alteration for the better, since the only means to remedy the Evil would be to restrain the whole Trade of the Province to one or two Ports a Scheme not likely to be relished by the Assembly, it is not improbable that when the Dividing Tangent Line shall have annexed to the Pennsylvania Territories the Lands which lye at the Heads of the abovementioned Rivers the Phila^a Merchants will purchase those Lands & build Store Houses thereon for the Reception of such Produce as may be carried thither from this Province & by sinking or clearing the Chanells of those Rivers to their Heads (where the Water is at present but shallow) make them navigable for at least small Craft, & as the Jurisdiction of this Government will not extend thither were they to carry & lodge in such Houses even our Tobacco no Seizures could be made by Maryland Officers; & as the Heads of those two Rivers are but a very few Miles distant from the Heads of some Creeks which make out of Delaware I do not think it unlikely that sometime or other the Philadelphia Merchants with the Assistance the Legislature of Pennsylvania may give them will have a Canal cut thro the Isthmus for the more ready Conveyance of our Produce to the Phila^a Markett, for the Scheme they are now prosecuting to make the River Scuilkill which abounds with Rocks navigable, & some other Schemes they have carried into Execution is sufficient to shew the enterprizing Spirit of that People. You will see by the Instructions which the Commissioners have given the Surveyors that if the Line which the latter are now ordered to run as a Tangent should deviate from the Extremities of the Offsets to be made from the Line last run more than in the Proportion of Two feet in a Mile the Surveyors are to desist, & return their Minute Books to Governor Hamilton & Myself, in which case we shall presume that some Error has been committed in running the last Line as well as the former or Meridian Line & shall I suppose refer & submit it to His Ldp & the Proprietors of Pennsylvania whether they will have any more Attempts made to describe the Tangent Line or not. In case of such Reference His Ldp may perhaps on consideration of