

the South Branch 'til it intersected the west Line run between Maryland and Pennsylvania. From these appearances I think it highly improper for the Proprietor or his Officers, to throw the first Stone by granting Lands over the Allegany Mountains; nor is it in my opinion just, or equitable, that the Office should have been opened for granting Land to the Westward of Fort Cumberland, before the back Inhabitants, who stood the Brunt of two Indian Wars (and some of whom I have heard obtained warrants with a view of Locating them on these Lands before the Reserve was laid) had notice, and thereby an equal Chance with others of taking up these Lands. By a Rule of the Land Office, all Certificates are to lye in that Office three months before Patents can be made out, this Rule I conceive to be a very just one, and not to be dispensed with, if it should, a younger Certificate might be preferred to an elder. As I am very sensible of your Justice and Equity, as well as your inclination to promote the Interest of the Proprietor, so I am certain there will be, but one unalterable Rule of Right, by which your decisions will be guided; and as a Month or two longer than the three Months, will afford the Guardians of the Proprietor time to signify their Pleasure in this Business, I submit, to your better Judgment which will direct you, either to grant or refuse my Request. I hope you will excuse the Freedom, which my Duty has impelled me to take & believe me to be, with due Regard,

Genⁿ Your most Obed^t hble Serv^t
Dant of S^t Tho^s Jenifer

Hon^{ble} Geo. Steuart &
B. Calvert, Esq^{rs}

Sir,

Yours dated the 29th Ult^o directed to M^r Calvert and myself I duly received. M^r Calvert's distress, occasioned by the Death of his Son, prevents his coming to Town, this and the hopes of your retracting the Letter, to which this is an answer, prevented my writing to you sooner, I told you it contained an improper request and that I thought you in the wrong, in this perhaps I may be mistaken, however I meant well & friendly. It was from M^r Calvert I first heard that the Governor intended to order warrants to be issued to the westward of Fort Cumberland, both of us waited on you that Instant & informed you of it, and at the same time told you that we could not consistent with our Instructions issue any Warrants until you had certified that the Caution money was paid, when you had done that it became our Duty to issue Warrants, and when the Surveyor returns Certificates of the execution of them, it is no less our Duty to make out