

with you, as you certainly know it much better than I do, but I hope you will excuse my reminding you that I applied to you & M^r Calvert & to M^r D. Dulany before any warrant issued out of your Office, to go with me to the Governor to prevail upon his Excellency to recall the Order. And had my request been complied with I think he would readily have postponed the Measure, til the Proprietor's pleasure was known, for I must do him the Justice to say, that I have ever found him ready to take the Advice of those in whom he placed a Confidence. Lib. No. 86

I am far from imputing an Inclination in the Proprietor or his Guardians to do any thing inconsistent with honour & justice, but when a new Measure is about to be taken by which his Property is meant to be transferred, it would seem but reasonable that he & his Guardians should have an Opportunity of considering the propriety & Fitness of carrying that measure into Execution, before they were precluded exercising a Judgment in the Case, by Patents being given under the great Seal. This was all I requested I would not presume to do anything, which might tend to limit the Extention of the Grant to the Proprietor's noble Predecessor, nor can I conceive how such a Construction could be made upon my Letter; but as the Lands to the Westward of a Meridian drawn from the head of the North Branch, to its intersection with the West Line of the Province, have never yet been granted by the Proprietors of Maryland, however clear the Right may be, I stil think a delay of exercising that Right for a short time, cannot weaken it, or encourage the Virginians to consider it as a dereliction; and that it would be more agreeable to the Proprietor to delay granting those Lands until the Dispute was fairly Settled, than to bring on an abrupt Contest, by exercising his Right at this particular time. My Conduct in this Affair has flowed from the Duty I owe to the Proprietor & the attention I shall ever pay to his Concerns here, whilst I have the Honour of being employed by him, in which tho' I have not the Pleasure of your Concurrence in this Instance, yet I cannot in conformity to your wishes retract my Letter, no Reason having been as yet offered to convince me, that the Request contained therein is unreasonable, or that the Compliance with it, can possibly be attended with any ill Consequence. Your own Judgment & Discretion assisted by the advice of the Board, you mention, I doubt not will govern your Conduct in granting or delaying to grant Patents; I have only interfered so far as I thought it my Duty to do. p. 132

As I am informed that Surveys are now actually making within the Lands reserved for the Proprietor, it would seem fit & prudent to make such restriction in the Patents (as you