MSS.
Archives
of Md.
Portfolio
No. 3
Letter 7
Hall of
Records

MSS. certifies that the Lands for which those Rents are claimed by both Archives of Md. Provinces that the Farmer be allowed such Deficiency Portfolio Of Lands returned not to be found but that the Patentee or Heir

Live in the Province

It is the Opinion that the Patentee or Heir having a Subject of Distress may be distrained on for those as well as any other his Rents & having other Lands but nothing of his own thereon the Cattle of any other Person levant or conchant thereon is Subject to Distress for the Whole As to what Proof may be sufficent that such Land is not to be found it is the Opinion that the Surveyor of the County in the Debt Book of which such Lands stand charged as well as several reputable People of the same County should certify that they do not know of any such Land there may be sufficient for a Discretionary Discharge of such Farmer for such Rents

Of Lands returned not to be found nor Patentees or Heirs known Where neither Land nor Heirs can be found It is the Opinion that the Farmer may be discharged from such Rents upon producing such Certificates as above as well from the Surveyor & Gentlemen of the Neighbouring Counties as of the proper County Wherein such Lands stand charged

Of Lands returned not patented & the Rents are therefore refused to be paid

It is the Opinion that the Farmer advertise such Lands as liable to be taken up under the Proclamation that it may be known & People thereby encouraged to apply for them under the Proclamation that they may be the sooner brought under Rent before which it is not thought reasonable that the Farmer should be chargeable

Of Lands returned Disclaimed

As to Disclaimer of Lands which are patented the Farmer is to pay no Sort of Regard to any such Disclaimer or Refusal to pay Rents But if the Parties are in earnest in their Disclaimer Let them petition the Chancellor & produce the Original Patent or any Office Copy under Seal with an Affidavit indorsed on such Copy that the Original Patent is lost & pray that such Patent or Copy & the the Record thereof be cancelled which being done the Disclaimers will be effectual & from that time both the Rent will cease & the Farmer be discharged

Of uncultivated Lands belonging to Persons living out of the Province

It is the Opinion that as the Claimer has nothing on the Land if he has not other Lands on which Distress may be found nor any other Persons Cattle to be found levant & conchant theron it must be considered as an insolvent Debt & the Farmer ought to be discharged