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lived, to be the exact Middle, of the Peninsula, in that Part is really to the
Eastward of the True Middle Point, consequently Your Ldp will gain one
way what was lost another; but as I have already observed was the Northern
Line to be run after the same manner (that is by setting off at Right Angles from
some Meridian, & ranging the Tops of a Number of Stakes or plumb'd Staves in a
straight Line) there would be no Chance, of Your Ldp's gaining anything, but
You must unavoidably suffer great Loss to wit the Land contained in such a
Triangle, as I have above mentioned & indeed from what I can see there is a great
Probability, of any Error that may be committed in running that North
Boundary being to Your Ldp's Prejudice than in your favour for which
reason it is the more expedient & of greater consequence that a true Method
or Scheme be procured & pursued. Altho the Commissioners did at their late
Meeting agree upon a Method for discovering & determining the Course of
the Tangent Line, & the point of Contact, yet I have among the other Queries
stated some relative to that matter as the Answers of able Mathematicians
thereto may possibly be of some Use, or if we have adopted a good Scheme,
it will give Us some Satisfaction to know that it meets with the Approbation
of the Skillful. As it is of very great Consequence to Your Ldp that the
Point from which the North Boundary may be begun lies no more than
barely 15 Statute Miles South from Phila. It would give me, & the other
Commissioners great Satisfaction to know what Method able Mathematicians
would recommend as the best & most accurate way of finding that Point
whether by Astronomical Observations or by actual Mensuration, & if the
Latter is thought best, by what Methods & Instruments the Mensuration
must be made. As I apprehend that the Surveyors will not by reason
of the weather be able to resume their Work again before the 10 or 15 of
April next, & that they will not have run the North Line which they have
begun & the Line from Newcastle to intersect it till the latter End of
June next I shall hope to receive Answers to the Queries before we
proceed to run the Tangent, nevertheless as I flatter myself the Course