

Second, That the former Proprietors of this Province cautiously avoided giving offence by granting Lands to the Westward of the Line settled between the Crown & Lord Fairfax (tho' the Agent alleges there cannot be a doubt but that the Mountain Head of the South Branch of Potomack is the place referred to in the Charter of this Province) and he presumes this Caution was intended to be observed until there should be an favourable Opportunity of bringing the Matter before the King in Council, and that the present Contest between Virginia and Pennsylvania will probably afford this Opportunity; he therefore thinks it highly improper for the Proprietor, or his Officers to throw the first Stone, by granting Lands over the Allegany Mountains —

Third, That the back Inhabitants who have stood the brunt of two Indian Wars ought to be preferred; and that he has heard some of them had obtained Warrants with a view of surveying Lands to the Westward of Post Cumberland, before the Refuse was Paid —

As to the Last, It must be confessed that we did not foresee the Objection, nor do we now perceive that there was any foundation for it — When the Royal Order was made in 1763. there were in the then situation of American Affairs, particular State Reasons for such prohibitions, but the purposes of this Order have been fully answered, and in consequence of the Things subsequent Proclamations very extensive Grants have issued for Land beyond the Mountains, to Officers & Soldiers who served in America & were reduced on the Peace, and we are assured that more than