

obliged by their Articles of Agreement to pay the rents for a great many Tracts of Land that either lie in Pensilvania, in some other County, are included in some Resurvey or that never did perhaps exist. The question therefore was whether any & what Allowances should be made to the Farmers for Lands that might be so circumstanced & till this question was determined the Rent Rolls were likely to continue in a State of Confusion because the Farmers would not come to a Settlement. Col^o Lloyd being prevailed on to come over towards the latter End of the Session I embraced the opportunity as soon as the Assembly was prorogued & agreeable to his Lordships Instructions desired the Secretary, Judges of the Land Office Attorney Gen^l & Keeper of the Rent Rolls to meet me & the Agent at a particular time in order to consider of proper Steps to be taken to remove the Difficulties that had hitherto prevented the Farmers from coming to a final Settlement. Inclosed I send you a Copy of the Resolutions that we came to which were subscribed by All of Us & given to M^r Thomas for his Instruction & Guidance. I am in hopes that this will have the desired Effect & that His Lordship will beleive we have therein consulted his Interest and acted in such a manner as we should have done had the Case been our own.

With Regard to what you write concerning Priest Beadnall's having presented a Petition to the Lord Proprietary I can only say that neither He nor any one for Him ever applied to me for a Noli Prosequi, I find there was such a Person informed against some time ago & bound over thereupon to the Provincial Court, but no Evidence appearing agst him the Affair dropt & it was generally believed that the Information was malicious & without Foundation. I am glad however that you gave his Sollicitor such an answer as it will serve to confirm the Roman Catholicks in the opinion which I have endeavoured to establish viz^t that if they offend they must not entertain the least hopes of being suffered to escape with Impunity.

I am sorry any People should have been so wicked as to propagate a Report that the Roman Catholicks have met with any Encouragement in this Province at least since my Administration but as You are of opinion that it will be expedient for me to send home a particular Account of all my Transactions relative to Persons of that Persuasion I will forthwith prepare one & transmit it by way of Letter to His Lordship by the first Ship that sails & if His Lordship pleases he might lay the same before the Secretary of State which in my opinion would be much better than for me to write to him on this Subject before he has thought proper to write to me thereon. So far by way of answer.