

Letter Bk. V

one or more Manors laid out within such large reserved Tract. There was also at the same time a Tract of 2524 Acres surveyed & reserved for your Ldp farther to the Westward on the Branches of Yoghiogany River. In the Spring of 1768 Three other Tracts lying among the Branches of the Yoghiogany were surveyed as Manours for your Ldp & Plats thereof returned to the Land or Revenue Office viz One Tract containing 17750 Acres, Another 6030 Acres & the Third 4740 Acres. When I was given to understand by M^r Hamersley's Letter dated in July 1768 that your Ldp did not desire to hold so much Land in the Nature of Manors but were rather inclined to patent most of it reserving a Quit-Rent I in a Letter to your Ldp bearing Date the 28th Nov^r 1768 wrote as follows. "If that is the Case (viz that your Ldp chooses to part with those Lands) I will if your Ldp pleases deposit the usual Caution Money for Either of the small Tracts & very probably other Persons may be found to take up the Rest if your Ldp is willing to part with it on the same Terms." This Letter of mine might not perhaps have reached your Ldp before you left England but in that Case I presume M^r Hamersley forwarded it to you; What I mean't & ask't by the part of it which I have quoted was that if your Ldp should choose to sell those Tracts of uncultivated Land on the usual Terms of Vacant unimproved Land viz £5 p^r 100 Acres Caution Money & four shillings p^r 100 Acres Quit Rent I would be glad to have the preemption of One or two of the small Tracts, to be granted to Me by one Patent, & if your Ldp pleases to accept my Offer & to give a special Order or Instruction for the Patents being issued I am still willing to purchase on those Terms for I believe none of those Lands are as yet disposed of. In my above quoted Letter of the 28th Nov^r 1768 was also the following Paragraph "I have also sent inclosed to M^r Hamersley an Account that has been put into my hands by M^r Leeds for his Attendance as a Commissioner & Mathematician on the Business of the Lines amounting to One hundred & seventy seven Guineas at the Rate of a Guinea a Day which is what the Proprietors of Pennsylvania allow to each of their Commissioners, & as M^r Malcolm the only Mathematician nominated in your Ldps Commission was unable to attend at the time it arrived & died soon afterwards I thought there was a necessity for having some other in his stead & M^r Leeds was acknowledged to be by far the best in the Province, your Ldp's Agent here will therefore I hope be authorized to pay him. None of the other Commissioners who acted on behalf of your Ldp have exhibited my Account nor do I suppose they intend to make any Claim for their Attendance." To this Part of my Letter I likewise wisht