

“ We also, by these Presents do give and grant licence to
 “ the same Baron of Baltimore, and to his heirs, to erect
 “ any parcels of Land within the Province aforesaid into
 “ Manors, and in every of those manors to have and hold a
 “ Court-Baron, and all things which to a Court-Baron do
 “ belong ; and to have and keep view of Frank-Pledge,
 “ for the conservation of the peace and better government of
 “ those parts, by themselves and their Stewards, or by the
 “ Lords for the time being, to be deputed of other of those
 “ manors when they shall be constituted, and in the same to
 “ exercise all things to the view of Frank-Pledge belonging.”

MANORS, which are of still more ancient date in England than the establishment of the feudal Law, were large Districts of Land held by Lords or great personages, who kept in their hands so much ground as was necessary for the use of their families, which were called *Demesne Lands*, being occupied by the Lords and their servants : The other, called Tenemental Lands, being distributed among their tenants. These last were held under two different modes of tenure, and from those tenures took two denominations, viz. Book or Charter Land, which was held by deed under certain rents and free services, and Folkland, which was held by no assurance in writing, but distributed and resumed by the Lord at his discretion. Of the last mentioned kind we shall have no further occasion to speak, as such a tenure was never introduced in Maryland. The residue of the manor, being uncultivated, was termed the Lords Waste, and served for public roads and for common of pasture to the Lord and his tenants. Manors were formerly called Baronies, and in later times Lordships. Each Lord or owner of a manor was empowered to hold a domestic Court called the Court Baron for redressing misdemeanors and nuisances within the manor, and for settling disputes of property among the tenants. This Court is stated to be an inseparable ingredient of every manor.

The view of Frank-Pledge, usually called a Court Leet, was a Court of Record held once in the year within a particular hundred, lordship, or manor, before the Steward of the Leet, being the (b) King's Court, granted by Charter to the Lords of those hundreds or manors. Its original intent was to view the *Frank-Pledges* that is the freemen, within the liberty, who were all mutually Pledges for the good behaviour of each other.

Those Barons or Lords who held of the crown frequently granted out to others large portions of their manors, which were also erected into manors, and these inferiour Lords to

(b) In Maryland the Proprietary's Court.