

could not leave without his private Affairs suffering very considerably; & as to M<sup>r</sup> Bordley who is the Youngest Member he is also a Lawyer & Your Ldp's Attorney Gen<sup>l</sup> as well as Naval Officer of this Port. Having given Your Ldp such Information as on this occasion I thought necessary concerning all the Gentlemen of the Council except Col<sup>o</sup> Lloyd to whose Qualifications Your Ldp is no Stranger I must if your Ldp will as M<sup>r</sup> Calvert intimates choose your Agent out of that Board submit it entirely to yourself to make the Election, All I can say is that whosoever shall meet with Your Ldp's Approbation may always depend on my best Endeavours to render the Administration of his Office as easy to him as possible & I hope your Ldp will believe that as far as concerns myself no Pains shall be spared to have Your Revenue brought under a proper Regulation, but as I have often hinted to M<sup>r</sup> Calvert I cannot do any Thing of Myself unless the Agent will perform his Duty. M<sup>r</sup> Calvert in his Letter hints that a Part of the Land Office might be appropriated to the Use of such a Board as is mentioned in his Scheme or in the former Part of this Letter, but as the Land Office is only a small Room or Apartment in a Building called the Stadt House & is always open except Sundays for People to have Recourse to, This would by no means suit; nor indeed does it seem necessary to have a particular Apartment appropriated to the Use of such a Board, as there will be no Necessity for our Sitting more than a few Days in a year & we may then meet at the Council Chamber or the Conference Room adjoining, whither the Agent may have his Accounts brought on such an Occasion for Examination, & by way of Repository for Counterparts of the Mannour Leases that may be granted, of Counterparts or Copies of the Agents general Accounts, of the Farmers Debt Books &c. a Kind of Book Case might be erected in a Closet adjoining to the Conference Chamber at a small Expence. M<sup>r</sup> Calvert by His Letter seems likewise to imagine that the Farm Contracts are dld out to the Farmers by the Rent Roll Keepers as well as the Debt Books, but that is not the Method, the Contracts or Articles of Agreement (as we term them) are executed by me & by the Agent dld to the Farmers who having properly executed them deliver to him Counterparts of such Articles as well as Bonds for Performance; for Your Ldp's better Information I will transmit a Copy of such Contract or Articles with a Copy of a Farmer's Bond, but as this Proceeding (I mean the Exchanging Articles & taking Bond from the Farmers) is regular & does not often vary I do not imagine it would give Your Ldp any Satisfaction to have Copies of all that are executed transmitted to you. If the Agent whoever he may be will discharge his Duty as he

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