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Annapolis Jan. 16th 1805

Having by a late letter, from George Warner, ^{learned} that you have taken possession of eleven acres in one field, three acres of his best meadow ground & two acres of timber land, besides about three acres of my land; he leaves to submit a few observations to your consideration which may merit attention. On a careful examination of the Certificate of Ross's Range the resurvey on Hard Grubbing it appears evidently that these Tracts interfere from an error of the Surveyor who, in laying out Hard Grubbing, run foul of Ross's Range an Elder Survey by disregarding a Call of the 45th Course of that Tract for the End of the ninth line of Cool Spring, on a presumption that Ross's Range must be limited by the course & distance expressed in the Certificate without proceeding to the Boundary ^{called} for, which can be incontrovertibly ascertained - As Boundaries are permanent Testimonials and were intended to correct the errors of surveys & Variations of the Magnetic Needle, they were uniformly preferred in the Courts of law, when litigations arise from the Variance between the course described by the Survey or that which was requisite to reach the Boundary, & this principle, so essential to the preservation of landed property & the tranquility of Neighbours, hath been fully confirmed by Acts of Assembly, & perused when of will apprehend satisfy you that you must submit to the loss of what was then ignorantly included within the lines of Ross's Range, which I believe affects all the Claims you have on M^r Warner, ~~and that~~ ^{at present} ~~an~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~entirely~~ ~~discovered~~ ~~by~~ ~~my~~ ~~hands~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~Course~~ ~~by~~ ~~which~~ ~~I~~ ~~conveyed~~ ~~to~~ ~~M^r~~ ~~Warner~~ ~~the~~ ~~land~~ ~~he~~ ~~holds~~ - The only other ground of interference between our lands must arise either from a disagreement between our Surveyors, or the Variation of the Compass, which can be brought to be settled amicably, & with this view request your patient attention to the following ^{Statement} of the ground on which my Claims are founded & I shall be more fully on this subject, because I apprehend you have been induced to alter your opinion since I had the pleasure of seeing you, by the advice of some person not competent to form a sound Judgment from a Want of knowledge of all Circumstances - In 1764 M^r John Ross, who had taken up Ross's Range in 1750, being desirous of selling that tract, desired me to visit it as it was entirely uncut to the ~~land~~ ^{meadow} which it was in, in order to form a just Estimate of its Value; on this occasion I found it necessary to have its lines run by J. Lezden, an old Surveyor well acquainted with the Neighbouring Lands, when several Errors were found out & some vacant Land discovered that rendered a resurvey necessary. To correct the former & include the latter; in the mean time M^r Ross died & having directed his lands to be sold, M^r F. Key & I who had married his two Daughters being appointed his Executors, took out a Warrant in our own name & M^r Norman Bruce, appointed a special Surveyor for the purpose did execute the Warrant & called the resurveyed Tract Runny made, & soon afterwards I purchased it & leased our large part of it to Tenants who settled thereon; in running out the Lots for these Tenants several of them were found to interfere with the adjoining Tracts, which induced me to resolve on having a new resurvey made by as accurate a Surveyor as could be ^{procured} got Bound and Boundaries fixed at a certain Place, not far distant from each other