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SOURCE: Canterbury Cathedral Archives

LANGUAGE: English

DATE: 18/10/1750

Summary:
Letter, Oct 18th 1750 from Philip Moor, lessee of Doccombe manor to Samuel Norris, Chapter Clerk & to Dr Griffith, Dean at Canterbury about the over valuation of each individual estate by Mr Tucker by several pounds. Mr Whitefield & his son, both old stewards of the estate & local people agree it is overvalued. The manor had been mortgaged by Mr Moor to Thomas Waldren, £55 to be paid every 7 years for the renewal & he would give £300 to be rid of the '*Waldrens burdensome estates'*.
Thomas Waldren paid £600 to Mr Hall for 21 years for the estate.
Dr Griffiths has recently been to Moreton.
Mr Moor has suffered much with the manor. He paid the high rent last year but the office for the D & C Canterbury had moved & he wishes to know where to pay this years & the £3 fine for not surrendering the lease within a year of Waldren becoming bankrupt - he did not think he had to pay it as the assignees had taken over the manor. He would have been pleased if the assignees had been able to sell it for more than he had lent Waldren. The case was a long time in Chancery & soon after it had been settled, he had applied to Mr Norris for the amount for the fine for the renewal, as is well known to Mr Stoodley, Mr Waldren's attorney, for his bankruptcy.

Real value £165 4s. Rack Rent £266 - £100 6s for outgoings.

Mr Cuel is the steward. Mr Tucker the surveyor. Mr Stoodley, Thomas Waldren's attorney. Mr Whitefield & his son both had been stewards. Mr Maunder has overvalued the estate according to Moor. Nicholas Waldren is Thomas Waldren's son. & Nicholas became bankrupt [London gazette June 29 1751 p3]. Thomas Waldren came from Ashburton & married Elizabeth Tozer. Nicholas Waldren married Hannah Towgood, daughter of Moreton's famous non conformist preacher, in St George's non conformist chapel in South St, Exeter, but the children seem to be baptised in St Andrews, Moretonhampstead. Elizabeth Tozer's brother John owned Langhill & Howton.

TRANSCRIPTION

Outside:
To Mr Sam[ue]l Norris in Canterbury
Letter from Mr Moor to Dr Griffith

Inside:
To Dr Griffith
Exon 8[Octo]ber 18th 1750

R[ev]er[en]ed S[i]r
According to your Order I have desired Mr Tucker to take an exact account
of the free produce of the Manor which I have here stated. I should have forwarded it sooner by
the Stew[ar]d Mr Cuel but he told me last August (the only time I conversed with him) th[a]t he was not inclin[e]d
to do anything in those affairs. But since he went for London I am inform[e]d by Mr Stoodley that
he did not forward Mr Tuckers Survey because Mr Cuel told him you w[oul]d accept of no accounts
but only such as ware{*sic*} conveyed by him. Mr Maunder hath very much over valued the estates
on the Manor, I know he hath charged the estates I have in hand severall Pounds more than I can
make of th[e]m, one in particuar he valueth in £25 p[er] an[nu]m which I have sett for seven years for £20 and upon
examination you will find the same by others. Mr Whitefield both Father & Son who for many years
past have been Stewards of the Manor as also all the Tenants who view this Survey at a Court held the 11th June
say it is much overvalued. Mr Maunder himself as well as all those who know the values of this Tenure
think the accustom[e]d Fine is the full value. But if the Rev[erene]d & Worthy Gentelmen had thought fitt to advance their
Fine, by giving Publick notice they might have prevented their Farmer from imposing upon cheating their
Neighbours. This Manor was mortgaged to me by Thom[a]s Waldren Nic[holas] his son with the incumberance
of £55 to be paid every 7 years for the Fine for a Renewall and I can not find there was ever more paid
for it. I see by a former Conveyance th[a]t it was sold for £450 and the farmer to renew for 21 years at his own cost
for the Purchaser. Thom[a]s Waldren p[ai]d Mr Hall £600 for it when there was about 21 to come and hath putt
his Sons in possession of more then £100 p[er] an[nu]m on your Manor. As the case stood

with him he could afford to give
somewhat more for the Fine then I can who has some Hundreds of Pounds more upon his Estates then I can make
of th[e]m. I will give any Person £300 to free me from Waldrens burdensom[e] Estates. I know not well how to
divide the Manor from the Fee Simple Estates as to value Waldren paying near the same puchase money for
the one as for the other 2 Thirds of the Land was Leased when he purchased but is since fallen into hand
Your journey to Moreton and in such a publick manner <question> my right of Leasing very much
alarm[e]d the Parish, and however advantagious it may prove to you, I think it much to my detrement, and how far justifiable I leave to Impartiall Judges to determine, since by your Lease you grant to the Farmer the accustom[e]d rights & previledges {*sic*} which Custom of Leasing for 3 Lives
hath been practised by the Farmers for ages past & I cannot find they were ever molested or forbid.
The Farmers of severall Estates in this County have the like previledge {*sic*} therefore it is not unpres[e]dented
thing. Pray excuse freedom. When the Rev[eren]d & Worthy Gentlemen have perused those Lines I perswade[d]
myself they will sumpathize {*sic*} with me who have been so great a Sufferer by Their Manor. And yet they
will renew according to the former Fines, I paying in proportion for the time elapsed since the 7 years ware
expired in which I have been treating with you for a Renewall. I sent last year to the place appointed in
your Lease for paying your High Rents but was inform[e]d that your Office was removed and it was paid to a
Person who was very indifferent whether he rec[eived it or not. Therefore please to inform mewhare(sic) to pay it
as also the £3 penalty for not surrendering my Lease within a year after Waldren Became a Bankrupt
which I thought my self not obleidged {*sic*} to do since the Assignees had seized the Manor. And if they could have sold
it for more th[a]n I Lent upon it I should not have been troubled with it. It was a long time in Chancery & soon
after I had properly the Possession of it. I applyed to Mr Webber to treat with you for the Fine. Mr Stoodley who as

an Attorney managed Waldrens affairs under the Statutes of Bankrupsy, and who is also well acquainted
with all my transactions relating to your Manor, will attest the truth of what I have advanced in the Letter

You told me when at Moreton th[a]t you should not be at this Audit. Nor can I attend as you advised me
and fearing this Letter should not come to your hands, I have sent a Coppy of it to Mr Norris which I hope you
will not take amiss but will act as my Friend as you was pleased to tell me when with me, and th[a]t in Conjunction
with your Rev[eren]d & Worthy Brethren (whose Breasts I doubt are inspired with principals of Generosity & Compassion
of this affair will be so managed at to give me & my Family cause to wish & Pray for the Prosperity & Happyness
of so worthy a Body of Gentelmen. I hope your Goodness will excuse me if anything herein contained
should appear anyway disagreeable to you, and accept of my humble & sincere respects of me who am

Rev[eren]d S[i]r Most Oblei[ge]d &
Obed[ien]t Hum[ble] Servant
Philip Moor

Rack Rent £266
Outgoings £100 16s
Real Value £165 4s in Mr Tuckers Survey

Mr Sam[ue]ll Norris

S[i]r I here send you a Coppy of my Letter sent to Doc[to]r Griffith for Reason
therein mention[e]d. Allthough this is an affair of small Value and of little consern {*sic*} to the
Rev[eren]d Gentlemen, yet the case being quite different to me, I beg some favour and the {*oblit.*}
me who am
S[i]r Y[ou]r very Hum[b]le Serv[an]t
P Moor
NB The names above mention[e]d are Persons well known to Doc[to]r Griffith

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