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LANGUAGE: Latin

DATE: 6/6/1719

SUMMARY:

Letter to Mr Rous at Canterbury from Nicholas Webber of Exeter on behalf of Mr Hall, lessee of Doccombe Manor 1719 in reply to a letter from the Dean about setting the Fine for £100 for 7 years.

He says the whole manor at Rack Rent or extended rent is worth £140 if it had been leased but this manor is all copyhold so needs to be computed in a different way. Locally it is computed by a 6th, 5th or 4th part of a year's value of the copyhold for 7 years renewal. It is an estate that does not give much profit as Leasehold estates do, depending completely on tenants dying during the 7 years & he may not make 6 pence profit after deducting his rent to Canterbury.

Mr Hall is happy to pay the same Proportion as he did before though that is more than is usually requested.

TRANSCRIPTION

Outside

Dockham 1719 N Webber Letter

Inside

Mr Hall is very much surprised at the Dean of Court's Letter in which he says that the Chapter do Intend to set a fine according to the Proportion of £100 for 7 yeares. The whole Mannor I think, at a Rack Rent or extended Rent is worth about 140 pound if it had Been Leased shall the Chapter's demand {? oblit.} would not have been unreasonable but as tis all Coppy hold the value of it must be Computed after an other manner.

The method of our Chapter in such Cases is to take a 6th, 5th and sometimes a 4th part of a yeares value of the Coppyhold for 7 yeares Renewal, but more then a 4th I never knowne demanded since I have had the Honor to serve them and truly I cannot see howe it can be Reckon[e]d to be more worth for it is such a sort of an Estate as doth not produce any certaine annuall Proffit as Leasehold estates do, but depends entirely upon the Casualty of Lives dropping dureing the Terme and it may happen that <Mr Hall> may not make Six pence of the whole mannor for 20 yeares <together> {oblit.} beyond the Rent which he pays to the Church.

He is content <however> to pay as he did last tho that's beyond the Proportion that we usually take and he desires that you would represent this matter to Mr Dean and Let me know the pleasure of the Chapter upon it.

I am your humble

Serv[an]t Nich[olas] Webber

Exon 6 June 1719