

tive. When the Council shall be thus Constituted, I think there cannot be much danger from the Noise & clamour that any Lower House of Assembly may raise; But as the bare preventing Mischiefs to the Proprietors rights & the interest of the Province in General will tend very little to the furtherance of both, it is worth considering whether the pretended patriot Spirit & clamour of the Lower House, cannot be either totally silenced, or rather directed towards the improvement both of the interest & Honour of his Lordship & his Government & of the prosperity and happiness of the people in General. And here give Me leave to observe & to lay it down as a Rule, that whatever Noise & clamour may be raised under the appearance of consulting & promoting the Welfare & happiness of the people, by their Representatives, 19 in 20 of these in fact only consult & intend their own private interest; & therefore by throwing out a Sop in a proper manner to these Noisy Animals it will render them not only Silent, but tame enough to bear Stroking & tractable enough to follow any directions that may be thought fit to be given to them: I would not be understood here to mean, the buying of those who shall be pleased to call themselves Leaders, for besides, that tho' they are in themselves really too insignificant & worthless, yet would they demand and expect a very considerable price, w^h when they had obtained they would be turned out of the House, & could consequently be of no further service; and one would no sooner be bought off, than their numbers would be Increased by others starting up, with the very view, from the example thus shown them; but instead of this I would take off their followers & leave the Leaders to Explain either alone or with so Slender a Train as to prevent their doing any Mischief, or obstructing any wise or Salutary Measure; And this I think may be executed by the Means the Government already have in their hands, even without Multiplying Officers for this purpose.

There are 58 Members of that House; 14 Counties send four each, & the City of Annapolis sends two. Now the business is to find Baits for 30 of these; which number is a clear Majority, Supposing they were all to attend; But it is very rare by information that above two thirds are present, & not above one Day in a Session that they Exceed 48. To answer therefore this purpose, I would appropriate the 14 Sheriffs places, which will undoubtedly secure 14 Members & may by good Management of their Commissions secure double that number; (But with this reserve ag^t appropriation of the Sheriffs in case it shall hurt the receipt of his Lordships Revenue) There are 14 Farmers of his Lordships Quit-Rents, 14 Deputy Comiss^{rs} and 14 Deputy Surveyours; all these places are con-