

Lib. 41. Dorsey, M^r Edward Blay, M^r John Leach, M^r John Waters, and M^r John Jones view and inspect the same and make Report thereof forthwith that the House may proceed accordingly. A Copy whereof was delivered them.

p. 28 Bill for making valid a Lre of Attorney from William Josephs Esq^r to William Josephs his Son, Read the first and second Times and by especial Order do pass.

The Hon^{ble} Thomas Tench, John Hammond, Francis Jenkins, William Coursey and Thomas Ennalls Esq^s from the Council enters the House and delivers M^r Speaker the following Libel and Message therewith viz.

My Friends. I have thought fit to advise you to take Care in Time to defend yourselves from that wicked Contrivance of Darnall and the Popish Priests in their agreeing with the French & the other Heathens to destroy you all. The Proceedings of Maryland are easily brought to us over Patowmack River Can any People think that the Queen sent a Governor amongst you to be ruled by Darnall or any other Papist. We hear that an Act of Assembly was made against the Popish Priests to blind the People; but how long was it before they had Liberty, and the Protestant Ministers Silenced. Have a Care of a Popish Plot lest you have Cause to repent when it's too late. This from a Friend is all present

To the Protestants of Maryland

By his Excellency the Governor and Council in Assembly
Die Veneris 18th May 1705

The above is a Copy of a scandalous & seditious Libel published in S^t Mary's County to the great Dissatisfaction of her Majesty's Loyal good Subjects but more especially with a malicious Intent to render the Administration of the Government here odious and Suspected. You cannot but remember that what was done in Order to checking or restraining the Extravagances of the Popish Priests came first from your House, and had the ready Assent of his Excellency and this Board So likewise what was done the last Sessions in Suspending the Execution thereof for 18 Months was first moved in your House and represented by you as reasonable to this Board wherefore we doubt not your Candour in publickly resenting so base and unjust an Abuse & Calumny of his Excellency & this Board as by the said Libel is offered against them

Signed p Order W Bladen Cl. Council.

Which being read the House refers it to further Consideration.