

Lib. M. And in Order to account for this their extraordinary Proceeding they declared their Unwillingness to contribute towards the Maintenance of the Ministers of the Church of England by Law established in this Province, and to conform themselves to such Laws and Rules for the regulating the Militia, as this Province in their Legislature has thought expedient and necessary for their safety and Defence against any foreign Enemy.

So surprizing a Behaviour endeavoured to be justified by such Pretences so greatly alarmed this Government with the dangerous Consequences which might ensue not only to this Province but to Every other Part of his Majestys Dominions in America, that they thought their indispensable Duty required their utmost Care to disabuse these deluded People and to make them sensible how much they had misbehaved themselves as Subjects to his Majesty and Tenants to Your Lordship; For this purpose the proper Sheriff of the County had Orders as well to demand and levy on those Inhabitants their just Proportion of the legal Taxes due to this Province, as to apprehend and secure so many of them as he could find, in Order that they might be forth coming to answer in due Course of Law for their Misdemeanor in attempting to disturb the Peace of this Province by their avowed Disobedience to the Laws thereof: And as this Govern^t might reasonably conclude these unfortunate People had been privately encouraged by some Persons daring enough to protect them against any Prosecution; therefore the said Sheriff had Directions to take to his Assistance in the Execution of his said Office some of the Militia of his County, in pursuance of which Commands the said Sheriff attended by several of the Militia repaired to that Part of his County where those Inhabitants resided; there he found them shut up in a house (which an armed Number of Inhabitants of Pensilvania had taken Possession of) and after his Demand of their being delivered to him was obstinately refused, the said Sheriff with the said Militia departed in a peaceable manner, and distrained some few of their Goods for their Proportion of Taxes

This Conduct of the Government of Maryland We humbly hope will appear to Your Ldp proper and reasonable; but We presume to acquaint Your Lordship, that the Government of Pensilvania thought fit not only to consider it in another Light, but to make Use of it for Purposes destructive of the Lives and Properties of his Majestys Subjects and Your Lordships Tenants; For that Government, under Pretence that those Parts of the Country lay to the Northward of a Line mentioned in an Agreement now under the Cognizance of his Majestys high Court of Chancery to determine whether it