

U. H. J. You have been pleased to propose the Oaths of W & M which you  
 Liber No. 35 apprehend to be such a Test as can't be thought unreasonable, and a  
 May 4 Refusal to take them would be in your Opinion a glaring Proof of  
 Disaffection, if your Intention is to oblige the Roman Catholics and  
 others to give a reasonable Assurance of their Loyalty we flatter our-  
 selves an Agreement between us upon this Head may be easily  
 effected; we shall therefore take the Freedom to propose such an  
 Oath as no religious Consideration will hinder quiet and peaceable  
 p. 322 Subjects from taking and which will give as ample an Assurance of  
 their Fidelity as can be reasonably desired the Oath we propose is this.  
 "I, A: B: do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful  
 and bear true Allegiance to his Majesty King George the second,  
 and I do swear that I will to the utmost of my Power support, main-  
 tain, and defend his Majesty King George the second, and I do  
 swear that I will to the utmost of my Power support maintain and  
 defend his Majesty King Geo: the second & I do swear that I will  
 to the utmost of my Power support, maintain, and defend his Majesty  
 King George the second's Dominion in and over the Province of  
 Maryland against all Persons whatsoever, and that I will disclose  
 and make known to the Governor or Commander in Chief in and  
 over the said Province whilst I shall be Resident therein all Treasons,  
 and traiterous Conspiracies and Attempts whatsoever which I shall  
 know to be against his Majesty King George the second. So help  
 me God. What is done in England may be and indeed is in many  
 Instances very unsuitable to the Circumstances of a young Country  
 and there can be no Necessity of proving that an Indulgence, and  
 Toleration of all Christians here not allowed in the Mother Country  
 may be for our Interest and that of the Mother Country—If the  
 Example of the Mother Country in the Article of Religion were to be  
 imitated in the British Colonies. in North America what infinite  
 Confusion would there be!

We have not objected to the Tax upon Debts due to Persons Resi-  
 dent in this Province or the Liberty given to Debtors to retain, our  
 Objection to the Clause relating to Debtors and Tenants was, and  
 still is, that no Breach of any Covenant or Agreement fairly made,  
 ought to have the Sanction of a Law.

As it seems you look into the Land Tax Acts, it is a little extraor-  
 dinary you did not observe that wherever a Power to retain is given  
 by them there is an express Saving of Covenants and Agreements  
 to the Contrary

There have been many different Modes of raising Money in Eng-  
 land as they have been thought suitable to the Exigency of Affairs,  
 and the Circumstances of the People, and if the Citation of an Act  
 of Parliament would be a sufficient Reason for imposing a particular  
 Tax it might be contended that all Esquires and reputed Esquires, all