

Regulation, are so opposite to the Opinion of the Assembly in 1755, I shall not undertake absolutely to pronounce. In 1755, as appears by your Journals, Lord Baltimore threatened his Dissent to the Inspection Law, then in force, because it contained a Regulation of Officers fees, and of foreign Coins: His Instruction being communicated by the Governor, the Lower House expressed their Sorrow, that a Regulation of Officers fees, agreed upon after the most mature Deliberation, and that had subsisted for five Years, been revived and continued, should be objected to by his Lordship; and declared their Opinion, that the Parts respecting Officers fees and foreign Coins were of great Advantage, and highly conducive to the Ease and Quiet of the People. The Governor was then prevailed upon by the Council, to suspend the Publication of his Lordship's Dissent, and on the Representation and earnest Solicitation of the Council, his Lordship withdrew his Instruction.

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I am willing to impute my present Disappointment to the blame you were blown into at the Opening of the Session, by the mistaken Construction or Explanation of a Proclamation issued by me, solely for the Benefit of the People of this Province, by Nine Tenths of whom I have the greatest Reason to think it was so understood. I must add, that I sincerely wish the same Zeal for the Service of this Province which has all along actuated my Conduct, was diffused amongst others, and it is not now too late to hope it may be so hereafter.

His Lordship's Officers throughout the Province, are thoroughly acquainted with my Sentiments, and the Consequence of any Disobedience of the Orders issued by me with respect to any Imposition on, or Extortion from the People, during the Want of the Inspection Law, I am therefore under no Necessity of repeating the Proclamation on that Head, otherwise, notwithstanding your Address, I most certainly should do what I think my Duty in the Situation I am placed requires; and whilst I continue therein, I hope my Actions will ever evince, that the Prosperity of the Province is the First Object of my Wishes.

Gentlemen of both Houses,

It is full Time to put an End to this Session. By and with the Advice therefore of his Lordship's Council of State, I hereby prorogue this Assembly to the 18.th Day of February next, being the third Tuesday of that Month; and you will accordingly take Notice that you are prorogued to that Time.

So endeth this Session of Assembly, this 30.th Day of November, in the Twenty first Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable Frederick Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c.^{ta}, and in the Year of our Lord 1771

Test Jn.^o Duckett Cl. Lo. Ho.