

people of Maryland should be any ways charged, & also to inflict the like pains & penalties & Forfeitures upon any person or persons there who shall refuse to pay such Customs Taxes or Dutys as is or shall be lawful from time to time to be inflicted by the Government of Virginia upon any person or persons in Virginia who shall refuse to pay the like Customs Taxes & Dutys in Virginia respectively. And that the same Clause or Clauses concerning the Trade with the Indians be inserted into the said Act as is in the said Act made in 1646 above mentioned concerning Customs, & in the mean time We do hereby will & require our said dear Brother to suspend the execution of the said Act made in 1646 as to those particulars of the Custom of ten Shillings a hh.^d upon Tob.^o & the Custom or Duty laid upon Wine & strong Waters. This We hope will satisfy the People there that We neither have nor had any Intention in the least to oppress them nor can We believe that our Assent merely to a Law which was formerly passed by an Assembly there & the proposals of another Law instead thereof less burthensome viz. to have instead of ten Shillings but two intimating only that in case the latter were not passed there would be a necessity of making use of the former, which was all We did (for We were so far from directing Sencell to levy the said ten Shillings a hh.^d as contrarily We did by other Letters require him to suspend the execution thereof) could be esteemed by the people so great an oppression as to cause such great mutations there had they not been beguiled by the craft & subtilty of that false ingrateful Fellow Sencell who it seems could not endure to be told of his Faults & Corruptions as his negligence at Courts & Contradicting orders of Courts yea even Orders made by himself & the Council with express Provision included that they should not be altered but by himself & Council &c. Which Complaint against him We gave him notice of, & have since found to be true, tho' We could not at first believe so ill of him, this it seems made him guilty to himself that he was not fit to be continued in his place & consequently being provoked also thereunto by other base humours in him to take that desperate course of revolting from his Trust under us there & Engaging many innocent People in that his wicked design of overturning the Government there which he may have cause to seem to repent, but as to the Generality of the People which were seduced by him We have given order to our said St. Brother upon their humble petition & Assurance of their hearty sorrow for being so seduced & of their future Fidelity & good Comportment to us & our Government there to pardon them some few only excepted whom he shall find did act therein more out of malice than Ignorance, & with the same spirit & design as Sencell himself did.

Given under our hand & greater Seal at Arms this 14th day of October in the twenty ninth Year of our Dominion over Maryland & in the Year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred & eighty