

to the End and Duty for which the Divine Providence hath Ordered us thus to meet, I say Providence hath Ordered for that there is no power but of God and the Power by which we are Assembled here is undoubtedly Derived from God, to the King, and from the King to his Excellency the Lord Proprietary and from his said Lordship to us, the power therefore wherewith I speak being as said

First In God and from God

Secondly In the King and from the King

Thirdly In his Lordship and from his Lordship

Fourthly In us, so the End and duty of, and for which this Assembly is now Called and met is that from these four heads to wit

of God

The King

Our Lord

and selves

We Consider and first

of Our Duty in Reference to God

That is to say that part of our duty to God which properly lyeth before us and that I humbly conceive consists in the well Ordering and making of good and wholesome Laws whereby to punish all publick and scandalous offences which shall at any time be committed by the People of or within this Province against the Divine Majesty, But more especially I commend to your care the utter suppressing and abolishing of the several heinous and habitual Crimes now most in Mode and use amongst the People as Drunkeness, Adultery, Swearing, Sabbath breaking &c.

Drunkeness Gentlemen that beastly Sin to the shame of the guilty be it spoken is but too common among the People of this Province to the utter Ruin not only of their souls, For that Drunkards shall not Inherit the Kingdom of God, But also of them their Children and families against whom God by his Prophet Isaiah pronounceth Woe saying Woe to the Drunkards of Ephraim &c. Ought not we then to fear and tremble least God in like manner should according to our Deserts Pronounce Woe to the Drunkards of Maryland it being Doubtless a sin of all sins the most Dangerous for not Content in itself it strangely leads us into almost all manner of sin and Vice depriving us not only of God but even of Ourselves, for it basely unmans us to that Degree that it makes us become greater Beasts than Beasts themselves, so shamefull it is to see Dogs have more sense than their Masters and horses more understanding than their Riders, The Scriptures tells us that the Drunkards shall come to Poverty, If therefore the Drunkeness of one Man (as auncient times) shall bring himself and family to ruine why then shall not Drunkeness, when it becomes such a like sin of the People bring the whole Nation to Destruction as indeed it often doth amongst wherewith I could produce of Divers Kingdomes and Nations that for Drunkeness have been forsaken of God and given as a prey to their Enemies, there has certainly been some judgement made in England against this sin of Drunkeness but I have not heard wherewith in Maryland is because the penalties inflicted by our Law are not enough wherewith I hope it will become the Providence of this Assembly so great an evil as for the future no such disorders may be committed to the

In the manner I recommend to you