

Mr Speaker delivered into the House a Copy of his Excellency's Speech which was ordered to be read as followeth

Mr Speaker, and you Gentlemen Delegates,

It has been demonstrable to all unbiased Persons that I never promoted any separate Interest from yours since my Administration, and with an honest open Heart I <sup>sincerely</sup> assure you her Sacred Majesty's Service and the true Welfare of this Province has been my only Ambition since I had the Honour to be constituted Governor of Maryland. And if some sour ill natured Incendiaries had not lately used their utmost malicious Insinuations to disturb and debauch her Majesty's other well meaning Subjects who came well prepared and honestly inclined to serve their Queen and Country there had been no Occasion for convening an Assembly so late in the Year therefore let me enjoin you to lay aside all Animosities, unnecessary Heats and private Piques, that with Calmness you may thoroughly consider the publick Interest with some Regard to the Character her Majesty has graciously given me, being ready to concur with you in what good Laws our Sovereign has, with great Tenderness recommended and others which you may think proper to be presented this Session for as I'm heartily willing to serve the Province to my utmost I'll never give you any just Reason to believe I will be a Victim to the restless Antimonarchical Spirit of an ungovernable Faction, but as I have always studied Loyalty to God Almighty's Viceregent on Earth with all Sincerity and Triumphy, I would gladly inculcate that Noble Principle into the Minds of every Gentleman here present

Mr Speaker, what I have further to offer unto you this Time is what I recommended to the late Convention, that her Majesty has been pleased to disapprove of two Laws lately made here, the one against Master Cropping Tobacco, on Board their Ships and the other about the Gauge of Tobacco Hogheads and commands me to tell yo' til her Royal Pleasure that we in this Province conform to the Size of those in Virginia and recommends a new Law to be made for that Purpose.

Gentlemen, Her Majesty thinks Sir Thomas Lawrence hardly used in Respect of the ordinary Licenses which her late Attorney General has reported to belong to his Office of Secretary. Mr Speaker shall have the Report, and her Majesty's Order thereon, and what Orders I have received from the Right Honble the Lords Commissioners of Trade &c on Sir Thomas's Complaint whereby you will perceive how earnestly her Majesty recommends a Law to appropriate the Times of those Licenses to his Office for a longer Duration of Time than three Years therefore hope you will be so prudent to show your ready Compliance herein.