

ple did before *Capt. Stone* attempted any force upon them) of his rights or Jurisdiction there, according to his Patent, should be punished with Death and confiscation of their Estates, as is usuall and necessary in the like cases to be done in all such Governments whatsoever; though no such severity is ever put in execution there, but when all fair and gentle means, being first tried to reduce such people to obedience will not prevail.

Moreover that pretended authority of the said Commissioners for reducing of *Maryland*, was urged heere in *England* by *Colonell Matthews*, Agent for the sayd *Mr. Bennet*, and the Colonie of *Virginia*, when his Petition was debated before the Committee of Petitions of the late Parliament which began in *July 1653.* and was by that Committee dismissed, and yet notwithstanding after the sayd dismissal and Dissolution of that Parliament, the sayd *Mr. Bennet* and *Capt. Cleyborne* did again in *July 1654.* come into *Maryland*, and with the assistance of some of the people above mentioned, by force of Armes turned out *Capt. Stone*, and the *Lord Baltmores* other Officers, and put others in their roomes by what Authority no man knowes; for although they had had as they pretended an Authority (which in truth they had not) from the Parliament which was dissolved in *April 1653.* to do what they did in *Maryland* in 1652 according to *Mr. Strongs* relation, yet after the Dissolution of that Parliament the Authority from it ceased, so as all proceedings in prosecution thereof afterwards was unwarrantable, unless that Authority which they pretended had been given them by an Act or Ordinance of Parliament for a certain time then not expired, or confirmed by the succeeding supream Authority heere, which it was not.

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