

Memo 1721  
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THE  
S P E E C H

Of His Excellency  
Coll. Charles Calvert,

Governour of the Province of *Maryland*,  
to both Houses of Assembly, *Febr. 20.*

1721.

*Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly;*

**I**T is with the utmost Regret that I found my self under a Necessity of Convencing you at this unseasonable Time of the Year, but as the Occasion is so Evident, it ushers with it a due Apolgy: for very few of the Tobacco-makers can Conscientiously comply with the Oaths prescribed in the late *Act for meliorating Tobacco*, which put such a Stop to Trade, that neither Planter nor Merchant is the better by the Law; for if the People will not Freight the Tobacco, the Consequence to them and the Merchants is too evident to need a Comment; if they slip without Complying with the Law, it may create a greater Trouble to the Courts, and Charge to the People, than indeed ought to be wished. But, as tis allow'd, that a Melioration of Quality was and still continues necessary, which is the chief Design of that Act, I doubt not but you'll readily agree, there is a Necessity for an Explanation or Amendment to the Law; for my Part, there is nothing that is proper for you to ask, and me to grant, but I shall heartily concur in, for the Good of *Maryland*.

Inasmuch as, through the indispensable Necessity of the above Occasion, you are met, I thought it my Duty to acquaint you, That our most Gracious Sovereign, in a late Speech to the *British* Parliament, has taken the low State of our Trade into his Princely Consideration, and for our Relief recommended the making of Naval Stores in these Parts. Such Instances of his Paternal and Royal Care of us, mult certainly more and more endear him to all His Good Subjects

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Subjects