

P. R. O.
Colonial
Papers.

Richard Hill to the Lord Baltimore

Maryland Sept^r 20th 1689.

My Lord,

My education and employment hath left me unfurnished with language sutable to adresse myselfe to your Lordship soe that I humbly begg pardon for offering this trouble, but as I have been long happier under my Lords^{ps} just Government soe cannot but be sensible of the late fatall mischiefs befallen us here by which myselfe and thousands more are deprived of such happiness; and as myselfe and all others living under your Lordships' protection for these many years past haveing always enjoyed our free libertie in the exercise of our religion together with the benefit of the laws of our native Countrey England and all other rights & properties that a free Englishman could desire or wish to enjoy for my Lord we cannot but lament and condole our late losse of all those priviledges of which we are now utterly deprived and that by the malice, pride and ambition of some restless spirits here; as by a late confederacie have endeavoured by whome we are brought under the apprehension of nothing lesse than the inevitable ruine and destruction not only of us and ours but alsoe of your Lordships peaceable Governm^t and as much as in them lyes of your Lordships just prerogative and interest here haveing by force of armes deposed your Lordship's deputies and Governors and divested them of the legall power and authority they exercised under your Lordship making voyd all your Lordship's Comissions both civill and millitarie by which they have broken dissolved and extinguished all lawes; disjointed and unsettled the whole frame and order of this your Lordship's Government under such pretences as plainly apeares they have neither power nor authority to maintain (otherwise plausible) but soe contrary are their practises and proceedings that they are not only contrary but in defiance of all laws both humane & divine; some few people here, out of each County only, sideing and making part with them soe that they might with ease have been subdued; but that for a handful of people to take armes one against another & other reasons which induces us rather to suffer that with patience which could not be prevented but by making the case worse; for as hitherto noe blood hath been spilt altho' we are in great fear and terror that it will not end without; except some speedy meanes from your Lordship to prevent the same; your Lordship's presence here would doe the work for which wee daily pray; my Lord I am heartily sorrie that such distractions should befall us over which is all except the obligations of my duty and fidellity to your Lordship whose I am in all dutifull respects to my power.

Rich^d Hill.