

Letter Bk. IV Election of Representatives to act as Magistrates or to enjoy any Place of Publick Trust or Profit, nor have they been since  
 p. 22 suffered, & to this I presume it must be principally attributed that altho Half the Province were Roman Catholicks about 60 years ago the People of that Religion do not at present make a Thirteenth Part of the Inhabitants as I find by the Return of the Sheriffs & Constables who have in obedience to my order made the most strict Enquiry in their respective Districts & the Rolls returned by the Collectors of the Land Tax shew that they are not possessed of a Twelfth Part of the Land which is held under Your Ldp as Proprietary of Maryland. That Your Ldp may not be at a Loss to account for their having many Enemies ready to propagat Stories to their Disadvantage I must intreat Your Patience while I inform You that some time before Your Ldp was pleased to appoint me Your Lieut Governor One M<sup>r</sup> Carrol a Roman Catholick died here & left a considerable Estate to his two Sons having appointed two of his Relations their Guardians & Executors of his last Will & Testament. Both these Gent<sup>n</sup> were at that time of the same Religion as the Testator but after a While One of them declared himself a Protestant & having qualified himself according to Law was chosen by the People of this County to represent them in the Lower House of Assembly. A Difference or Quarrell arising between the Executors concerning the Administration He that had not renounced his Religion published a Piece by Way of Advertisement which reflected much on the Conduct & Character of the other who had Address enough to persuade the House of Assembly which was then sitting to take Notice thereof & to punish the Author for Violating their Priviledges by Libelling as they said one of their Members. Some Roman Catholicks Friends of the Gentleman who was thus treated having taken the Liberty to speak disrespectfully of the Assembly for such their proceeding the Lower House immediately resented it by Resolving that the Papists were bad Members of the Community & unworthy of the Protection & Indulgence which had been given them. After this their Enemies & many were made such by Envy or the hopes of reaping some Advantage from a Persecution of the Papists were continually representing them as a very dangerous People Enemies to His Majesty & their Country, nor had this Spirit of Enmity subsided when I arrived in the Province. Immediately after the Defeat of General Braddock it was given out that several Roman Catholicks had showed Signs of Satisfaction & Joy at that unhappy Event & that One of their Priests had been seen on the Frontiers in the Dress of an Officer: To alarm the People the more it was at the same time rumoured that the Negroes  
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