

Letter Bk. IV were groundless & I flatter myself that his Conduct hereafter will confirm the good opinion His Ldp is pleased to entertain of him, & that he will find it worth his while to continue in Maryland & devote himself to His Ldp's Service. I am sorry you should from what I wrote to you the 7th of July last in Answer to Your Letter dated the 17th of March preceeding have concluded that I was affected with what you term the Malady of the Colony Jealousy, what surprized me was as I then told you the Beginning of your Letter but when I had read the whole & from thence discovered that such Beginning was not so much Your opinion of any Failure in me as an Introduction to a Scheme which some Person here imagining no doubt it could be carried into Execution had been pleased to communicate to You, my Surprize & Uneasiness as I told you was diminished; & tho for my own part I was of opinion that the Scheme however plausible it might appear on paper was not so easy to be executed yet I was by no means displeased that another person should see things in a different Light from myself, and the more I consider the Matter the more confident am I that even an Attempt to pursue some parts of it (particularly that wherein 'twas proposed to take or buy off some of the Followers in the Lower House) would lay the Foundation of continual Trouble & Vexation to His Ldp & to whomsoever he might during his whole Life be pleased to honour with the Administration of Affairs in this Province. Had not this

p. 177 Measure been pursued by my Predecessors I am thoroughly persuaded there would not have been such an Opposition now made by the Members of the Lower House, indeed some of the second Rate at present in that House are Men who having been heretofore bribed by promises of Sheveralities to give a Vote have now opposed Govern^t on the same principle & with the same View but if they are disappointed & find that Favours are not for the future to be conferred on any but such as persevere in measures agreeable to Reason & Justice I am confident that in a very few years there will be a Revolution in that House & that those who are now at the Head of a Majority will find themselves among the inferiour party nay the Journal of the proceedings of the Lower House this Session shews that those engaged in the Opposition had barely strength enough to carry their Assessment Law, & as the Contest between them has been warm & long if the moderate men should once outnumber the others there is a greater probability of our then obtaining some good Laws than there would have been had not the Members carried their Resentment to each other so great a Length; but as I have already intimated was the Lord proprietary, His Ldp's Lieutⁿ Governor, or the Upper House now to shew any unsteadiness, or was I to go about to