

Letter Bk. IV allowed that in their Message the Upper House did launch out rather too far & use some Expressions which had better been avoided but whoever will read the Message of the Lower House which gave Occasion for it must think their Language was also very unbecoming & enough to warm a Person apt to take fire which was unhappily too much M^r Bordley's Case & as he did not bring his Draft into the House till the very last Day of the Session there was not time to alter it. As the Remarks were distributed about the Province in Covers directed to the Members of the two Houses & other Gentlemen it is not certainly known whence they came, but most People I find are of Opinion that the principal Hand concerned in them was M^r James Tilghman who was lately a Burgess for Talbot County & one of our first Rate Lawyers but is now settled at Philadelphia & as there is a great Intimacy between him & M^r Dulany who has taken some Pains to bring him to Annapolis & seems sollicitous to keep on the best Terms with all the managing Men or Leaders of the Opposition in the Lower House not a few suspect the Pamphlets having undergone that Gentleman's Revisal before Publication & many that it received Additions from his Hand. That he is fond of being thought a Patriot Councillor & rather inclined to serve the People than the Proprietary is evident to every one & his Behaviour in the Upper House during the late Session with respect to the College Bill & afterwards the Frontier Bill leaves no Room to doubt but he is willing the Fines should be applied to any purpose whatever that the Lower House may think fit. How he behaved in England I know not but he affects a great Superiority here & indeed the only Person in the Council that he seemed to consider as an Equal was M^r Bordley & as that Gentleman is unhappily reduced to such a State by a Paralytic Disorder as to be almost disqualified for Business M^r Dulany who is now in perfect health seems to think himself of still greater Importance than ever, I leave you then to judge of my own Situation & prospect, & of the Consequences which might be expected to follow should his Weight & Influence be by any means increased. As I scarcely expect M^r Bordley will survive the summer I am considering what Step is then to be taken & who in case of his Death is to be appointed Commissary General, for I suppose M^r Dulany would not choose to undertake that Office again tho the Reason he gave for quitting it does not now subsist. I forgot to tell you that there was a small Vessel condemned here last Winter in the Court of Vice-Admiralty for Trading in the province without entering with either of the Naval Officers, The Forfeiture under the Statute is one Third to His Majesty, one Third to the