

Pay the Judges & not his Lordship Let them be in Earnest, and I will heartily Joyñ Issue with them. Let a Bill be framed to Appropriate even the whole of this Revenue (I had almost said) for the better Establishing & securing the Independency of the Judges, & for rendring the Office Worthy of the Acceptance of Men of the greatest Abilitys & Integritys in the Province, and they shall not want my Concurrence. In this Tract they can scarce go greater lengths than I will wish to follow them. But I will be Consistent with myself. I will still Insist upon my rights till I see proper occasions to suspend them, and when those Occasions Cease, I will again Resume them. The Lower House will not seriously Contend that their College Bill was of a Frame & Composition to induce a Reluctant Consent; But I will not Descend even to Criticise upon the Bill, it is a Compliment it does not deserve at my hands. The matter has unawares carried me into a Length I never intended, as this Letter was only Designed to Introduce to you an Instruction Restraining your Assent to any Bill respecting my Licences without a suspending Clause. It is the result of the best opinions here, it will shorten and Cutt off all Disputes between the Two Houses, the Lower House will have an opportunity of dispatching their Ordinary Business without protracting their Session unnecessarily, or burthening my Tenants with unreasonable Expences; The Upper House will be Delivered from Disagreeable and unfruitfull altercations, and will Avoid all the Imputations of Designing Men. The suspense being my Act will Transfer the odium (I fancy) from you & the Council to myself, but in so doing My Rights will be so far preserved, that my own Consent must precede the Abolition of them. If my Assembly and I shall still have the Misfortune to Differ in opinion, It is for our Mutual happiness that the Decision will then Devolve upon his Majesty and his Ministers, where I shall always be ready to submit my rights. In the mean time no Inconvenience can result to my Province from the Postponing of a Bill for Endowing a College, which was first thought of (when no other Plausible Application occurred) in the second Century after my Grant, as a Popular & subsisting Pretence, for Continuing a Claim w^{ch} the Restoration of Publick Peace and Tranquility had left no longer a pretence for. I mention this Bill as being the last Attempt I have heard of, and what I expect again to hear of, tho by the Zeal and Activity of the Upper House Defeated or Laid aside for a time. I am

S^r

Your Assured Friend & Real
Humble servant
F Baltimore

Southton Row
7 Feb^y 1765.