

be given by the Ministry or others to an Anonymous Pamphlet than to the Votes & Proceedings of our two Houses. From the Pamphlets being taken no Notice of here by the Upper House or any one on their behalf It soon fell into Oblivion, nor did the Author think it would be for his honour or Reputation to acknowledge his Offspring (for he is not yet known;) & in my Opinion the Publishing an Answer to it here would answer no other End but to revive useless Disputes & to furnish some Lover of Mischief among us with an Occasion & Pretence for throwing Dirt on those who are concerned in the Government or who might be suspected of writing such answer, & I think a Perusal of the several scurrilous Pennsylvania Pamphlets which I lately sent you must have made you entertain the same Opinion. As to the Affair of the Ordinary Lycences here I presume it will be now settled & that there must be necessarily an End to all Contests about them, since the Stamp Act lately made by the Parliament directs that if it is not otherwise provided by Act of Assembly the Governors for the Time being in the several Colonies shall for the future grant such Lycences, for which I presume they ought to have a reasonable Fee; in all or most of the other Colonies a Right to certain Fees for such Lycences has been confirmed to the Governors by Act of Assembly, & if our Assembly does not choose to settle them by an Act The Governor may I suppose himself regulate his Price keeping within the Bounds of Moderation; but I should be very glad to know his Ldp's farther Pleasure with respect to this matter, for as the abovementioned Act of Parliament hath been made since he was pleased to write to me the 7th of February I presume the abovementioned Clause in that Act might induce His Ldp to supercede or make some Alteration in his Instruction; & as I have hinted it would give me great Satisfaction to know his final Resolution before the Meeting of our Assembly which stands prorogued to the Beginning of October, the small Pox which has been in Town ever since February & still continues here having laid me under the Necessity of proroguing them to that time. You say that you think M^r Bacons Edition of the Maryland Laws will not answer because he has only given the Titles of the Acts pass't by the Lord Cæcilius, but I apprehend you will be of a different opinion when you find that such Acts as he only gives the Titles of are not at this time in force having been since either repealed or reenacted & will be satisfied that in printing at large all the Acts which are now in force he gives us all that was necessary at least it is my Opinion that to have published Acts which have been repealed or are expired would only enhance the price of the Book without answering any good End whatever.