

Conduct this which might expect the warmest Returns both of public and private Gratitude. But his Lordship not having made a Practice of sending in Immediate Commissions from Himself for offices of Trust, and his not having dispensed with Pluralities, is so far from being a good Reason why he never should, that it is the best Reason in the world why it should sometimes be done, lest Disuse should invalidate Privilege, and popular Power annihilate Prerogative.

Pluralities are admissible in Maryland two Ways: by Dispensation According to the Statute and Canon Law of the Kingdom of England, And by Consent of Vestries according to the Act of Assembly of Maryland.

Tho the antient Canons and Constitutions of the Church were very strict Against Pluralities yet the Power of granting Dispensations lodg'd in the Hands of the Popes heretofore & exercis'd by them in the fullest Manner, in all Countries where the Christian Religion has received a regular and temporal Establishment, and which constituted one great Branch of the Revenue of the Apostolic See, gave great Latitude to the Clergy in this Respect. To prevent This, as well as the many other Papal Inroachments within the Realm of England, It was Enacted 25 H. 8. C. 21. "That no person shall sue to the

" See or Bishop of Rome or to any person having or pretending any Authority by the same, for Licences Dispensations Compositions Faculties &c for any Cause or Matter for which the Same us'd to be granted, or that in Causes of Necessity may Lawfully be granted without offending the Laws of God, But the same shall be granted in Manner following & none otherwise; That is the Archbishop of Canterbury shall have Power by his Discretion to grant the Same which in things of Greater moment shall not be put in Execution 'till Confirm'd by the King under his great Seal, in Manner following & none otherwise."

The Kings of England before the Time of H. 8. have us'd to grant dispensations in Causes Ecclesiastical, and notwithstanding this negative Clause it has been held in a Variety of Cases at different Periods of time, that this Statute does not Intend to take away from the King (who is not nam'd in the Statute) the Prerogative of the Crown, to which Likewise the Papal Authority was now Transferred, and in a Late Case it was delivered, that the Statute gives The Archbishop a Power Concurrent with that the King had and still hath at Common Law and that Dispensation granted by the King or Archbishop is good. Burns Note God. 108. Gibs 88. If the negative Words *no otherwise* in the Statute are so construed & explain'd