

P. R. O. with their Religions; but finding that they were very imperfect, have given new Orders about it, as also about the sherriffs returns relating to those Persons that are imploy'd in places of Trust, contrary to the Intent of the Act for preventing Frauds &c. and likewise for a more perfect return concerning the number of sea-faring men, ships, and vessels. But they never having been us'd to such Returns; & most of the Officers either so very negligent, or not capable; are the reasons that I have not been yet able to send them to yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup>

I hope that their Hon<sup>rs</sup> the Commissioners of his Majestys customs, will doe something concerning the Assemblys Address to his Majesty for the remission of Forfeits upon Navigacōn-Bonds. And then I shall be sure (as yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> please to write (that you will take all due care of it, when yt comes before yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> (God willing) I intend to send to them by one of the next ships; which I suppose, will be within a few days, a Copy of the Pensylvanian Act, as also Copys of Col. Quarys Letters; For the Col. told me they had spoken to him to give them an Account about the Admiralty &c.

According to yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> Commands to me, I shall exert all the power I have in the redressing of that evil of taking up too large tracts of Land, more than the Grantees are able to cultivate. But the soyl in this Province, being my Lord Baltimore's, I find my self invested with no power from his Majesty concerning it. But I shall lay it before the Assembly, and endeavour by some Act, or Ordinance in some measure to redress that Grievance. But as for preventing it in Virginy; I think it may be easily done for the future. When I had the honour to serve his Majesty as Lieftenant Govern<sup>r</sup> there, his Matys Royal Instructions to the late Lord Effingham then chief Governour, which bore date the 9<sup>th</sup> day of S<sup>ber</sup> as were sent to me; one of which is, vizt. "And whereas we have "been informed that the Grant of o<sup>r</sup> Royal Grandfather of "blessed memory heretofore made to that our Colony, to "exempt the Planters from paying Quit-rents for the first seven "years, did turn to the great prejudice of that o<sup>r</sup> Colony, and "that many took occasion thereby to take and create to them "selves a title to such quantitys of land, which they never "intended to (or in truth could) occupy or cultivate; but thereby "only kept out others who would have planted and manured "the same: And the late King Charles the 2<sup>nd</sup> of blessed "memory, having therefore by his Instructions given to S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> "Berkley, revoked all such Grants, as contrary to the Intention "of o<sup>r</sup> Royal Grandfather, and to the good of our Subjects "there: We doe likewise give the same Directions to you; that "if any such Grants should still be insisted on, the same be "looked on, and taken to be voyd and of none effect: and you