

P. R. O. And they sold that year, for more in the hundred, than they did before: and I suppose, will allways doe so, when so exposed to sail: For I found that that way gave great satisfaction, as the other did the contrary.

When I transmit to yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> the Body of Laws which are now transcribing fair; I shall endeavour (according to yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> Commands) to send yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> the Draught of one for a gen<sup>l</sup> pardon: and shall likewise observe yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> directions concerning the pardon for the two Women guilty of Murder. But I have an account that one of them is gotten away from Robert Mason late Sherriff of S<sup>t</sup> Marys County.

Being yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> think it not fit to propose to his Majesty the establishment of any new Office in any particular place, as that of Sollicitor gen<sup>l</sup> here: with yo<sup>r</sup> Lordp<sup>s</sup> Consent I shall endeavour to make M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Dent some sort of satisfaction for what services (w<sup>ch</sup> have been very many) that he hath done his Majesty in that Stacōn. For he hath had a very troublesome time of it; and no doubt hath lost very considerably by his practice. But I dare affirm, that had not he been imployd in his Matys Law-Affairs; they would have suffered very much, both for want of him, and of his being on the contrary side.

Before the next moneth be out, I expect to have accounts from every County what number of persons (please God) are dead of this last distemper: which I judge by a rough Computacōn, are betwixt 800 & 1000 persons: but now, I thank God, the distemper is quite over.

There hath been imported this summer about four hundred and seventy odd Negros, vizt 396 in one ship directly from Guiny. 50 from Virginy, which came thither in a ship from Guiny. 20 from Pensylvania, which came thither from Barbadoes: a few others from other places. And by the middle of the next moneth, I hope to have the certain Number of Servants imported; which by such an other Computacōn, may be about 6 or 700. whereof most part are Irish. Now, if please God, there should next year, or within 2 or 3 years dye the like Number of Inhabitants; and there should be imported as many Irish and Negros, especially of the first, who are most, if not all, Papists; it may be of very dangerous consequence to this his Majestys Province; as allso to that of Virginy; being I hear they are under all the same Circumstances. And they might make great disturbances, if not a Rebellion: because these are very open Countrys, and they may have easy Cōmunication with one an other near the Falls of Potomock; And in each Province they can doe it much easier: for the cōmon practice is on Saturday nights, and Sundays, and on 2 or 3 days in Christmas, Easter, & Whitson-tide, they goe and see one an other, thō at 30 or 40 miles