

September the 4th 1698

Lib. X.

The Council Sate

Present

His Excellency the Cap^t Gen^l &c^a

the honble	{	Coll ^o Henry Iowles Chancellor	}	Iustices of the Prov ^l Court
		Thomas Tench & Ia ^s Frisby Esq ^{rs}		
		Rob ^t Smith, Richard Hill,		
		Thomas Tasker, In ^o Pollard,		
		Iohn Thompson & Ia ^s Keech		
		Geo Plater Esq ^r Atty Gen ^l		
		W ^m Dent Sollic for Gen ^l		
		Robert Gouldsborrowh	}	of his Majestys Council at Law

His Excellency tells the Gentlemen that the reason he has now sent for them is for that he hath recd a Petition from M^r Gerrard Sly which is read as followeth viz^t

To His Excellency Francis Nicholson Esq^r Captain General & Governor in Chief in & over this his Majesty's Province And Territory of Maryl^d

The humble petition of Gerrard Sly

Sheweth

That he looks upon it as one of the greatest Misfortunes of his life to be brought under the Circumstances he at present lyes under in as much as thereby he is found guilty of abusing & reviling a person not only dignified with the Character which your Ex^{cl^{cy}} bears in this Province under his Sacred Majesty but likewise a person whose care prudence diligence & Circumspection has brought the frame of this Government to Such a perfection and promoted acts of Iustice & piety to that degree that may Iustly deserve the affections & prayers of your Excellencys long Continuance in the Government of all persons well affected to their King & Country

And as your Excellencys humble Petitioner from the Bottom of his heart is sorry not only for his said Misfortunes but also for the Offence given your Exc^{cy} So he Sincerely promise never again to give the least Occasion either by Keeping Company with any disaffected person or persons to your Excellency or otherwise of his falling under your Excellencys displeasure & this as he is a Christian does declare that none of his Actions were ever thought or Intended to stir any manner of Comotion in your Excellencys Gov^t & hop^s this being his first Crime against your Excellency that you will be so favourable to extend your Clemency so far towards him