

for inspecting and improving his Plantations in America and elsewhere, it is to the great and generall satisfaction of this his Majesty's Province, and of my self in particular. P. R. O.
Maryland, 9.

I humbly beg leave to give your Lordships a brief account of this his Majesty's province; before the happy Revolution. Whilst My Lord Baltimore resided in the Country all things were pretty quiet, but when his Lordship went away, he left the Government in the hands of the Councill, the principal of which were Papists, and they had generally the places of profit and Trust, and the Quakers were in the Assemblies and other places in the Government. As for the Church Governm^t it was in the hands of some Jesuits and Priests: the chief place of their residence was within two miles of S^t Mary's, where they have a good brick Chappell, and about 5 or 6 wooden ones in other places of the Country. Of priests, and Jesuits there is commonly six or seaven in the Countrey, and they have severall good plantations to live upon; but I suppose they have allowances from England and other places, and from the people of their perswasion in this Countrey. The Quakers are also dispersed all over the Countrey, but more numerous, and also have more places for their worship. There were seldom above 3 or 4 Clergymen of the Church of England that resided in the Countrey, and they had no certaine maintenance, but only by voluntary contributions, by which way also the places for the publick worship of God, according to the Church of England, were built.

Sabbath breaking, Cursing, swearing, and profane talking; some of the Men having two wives, and some of the women two husbands, whoring and drinking, especially the last were too much practiced in the Countrey, and seldom any were punished for these Sins. Few Schools, and those but very mean ones either for Master or House: But the Jesuits and Priests had some, especially one brick one at S^t Mary's. After my Lord Baltimore went for England, the Courts of Justice were very delatory, and the people were fined by Law, and became sureties for one another, as also for strangers on Navigation bonds, and upon severall other occasions; yet very seldom were the Fines collected, or the Bonds put in suit. I suppose the Jesuits and priests were willing to have a very loose Government both in Church and State, that they might bring the people to be Atheists, in order to make them Papists. To accomplish which I suppose they would not have mett with great opposition; by reason that the Major part of the Countrey was first seated but by an indifferent sort of people.

The time betwixt my Lord Baltimore's Government, and the arrival of his Majesty's Governour the late Coll^l Copley, was very unsettled, and the Government very loose, but the