

P. R. O. publick Debts of the Countrey grew great, and others also,
 Maryland, 9. especially those to my Lord Baltimore upon account of his
 Quitt rents.

Whilst his Excellency Governor Copley lived, all the Debts were not paid, neither were any so during the time that his Excellency S^r Edmund Andros his Majesty's Lieutenant and Governor of Virginia took upon him this Government. Tho' there be an annual charge for the maintenance of his Majesty's Honourable Councill, Burgesses, Iustices of the Provincial, and County Courts, Rangers &c which are paid in Tobacco, and levyed p pol. So that when it pleased God that I arrived here with the honour of having his Majestys gracious Commission to be his Governour of this his Majesty's Province, I found it very much in debt; and I dare venture to say not very well settled either in the Church, Civil, or Military Government. But according to his Majesty's Royall Commission and Instructions to me, I have endeavoured to new modell them, as will appeare by the Severall Journalls of Councils, Assembly and Laws, during the time that I have had the honour to be his Majesty's Governor here, which have been sent to the Lords of the late Committee of Trade and Plantations, together with my letters, Papers &c. And by this Fleet is transmitted to your Lordships by his Majesty's Secretary of this Province S^r Tho: Laurence the Duplicates of the Journals of Councill, Assembly, and Laws (which your Lordships do me the great honour to write me that you have received) as also of those since, with papers of other affairs concerning this his Majesty's Province.

I herewith most humbly transmit to your Lordships an account of the parishes &c in N^os.

There was a Law passed in the late Governor Copley's time for establishing the Church of England &c which his Majesty in Councill the 11th of March 1695/6 was pleas'd to disapprove and disallow of &c; But there is another now sent to your Lordships, and you may please to see by the Iournals of Assembly, what difficulties I met with about it. When I came hither I found very few of the Churches built according to the former Act of Assembly; but I hope in God that they will be all finished this year, and then we shall want Clergymen, and a Commissary to inspect the Church affairs, for whose maintenance an Act is passed, and now sent to your Lordships. My Lord Bishop of London hath promised to send an able Commissary and some good Clergymen, as also School Masters for the Free Schools, for establishing of which, there was an Act passed, which his Majesty was pleased to disapprove & disallow of &c But there is now sent to your Lordships another supplicatory Act for Free Schools, wherein