

then proposed it to the assembly here who might perhaps Lib. X.  
have followed the example of our adjacent Neighbours in re-  
fusing the said sum but that it being convenie<sup>t</sup> Our Assem- p. 274  
bly should meet early in the Spring they being sensible of the  
charge they have avoided by their not meeting this Autumn  
upon that Occasion may be the easier inclined to give a ready  
compliance thereto

His Excellency was pleased to Lay before the Board the  
Right Honble the Lords of Trade & Foreign Plantations  
Letter to him of the 13<sup>th</sup> of June with the Proposed Law for  
the Establishment of Religious Worship according to the  
Church of England & for the maintainance of Ministers here  
which said proposed Law is Referred to be Laid before the  
General Assembly at their next first Sitting to enact the same  
according to their said Lordships Directions

Then was produced & read their said Lordships Letter to  
his Excellency the Governor of the 22<sup>d</sup> of July 1701 requir-  
ing his Excellency to get the best information he can &  
speedily transmitt the same to their Lordships relating to the  
ill Conduct of Proprietary Government especially of Mary-  
land when under that Gov<sup>t</sup> & also of the adjacent Proprietary  
Government of Pensylvania & the Jerseys

Whereupon his Excellency requires the Members of this  
Board they having been resident in this Province when under  
the Proprietary Government to give him the best information  
they can as to the Observations they have made upon the ill  
conduct of that Government & likewise what they know or p. 274  
have heard Concerning the Proprietary Gov<sup>ts</sup> of Pensylvania  
and the east and west Jerseys

To which they do say that as to this Province when under  
the Proprietary Government of the Lord Baltimore & those  
by him impowered they have been informed great irregular-  
itys were committed but forasmuch as their Lordships Com-  
mands are instant for a speedy Answer they can only give  
this present account reserving themselves to give their Lord-  
ships such further circumstances & Proofs as at Present they  
cannot for want of time to enquire and examine into viz<sup>t</sup> that  
they are well assured under the Proprietary Government of  
this province there were no oaths of Allegiance or other obli-  
gatory oaths to his Majesty imposed upon or administred to  
any person within this Province whether of the Council Jus-  
tices or any the Ministerical Officers but that such persons  
only took an oath of Fidelity to his Lordship the Proprietary  
& other oaths for the due execution of their respective offices

There were several Laws in the Proprietary Governm<sup>t</sup> with  
the advice & Consent of the Assembly but how far repugnant  
to the Laws of England or prejudicial to Trade they cannot