

C. P. eration of their having embraced the Protestant Religion which has not onely removed th' Umbrage has been long wisely conceived ag^t their Administration here, for reasons of State.

But I am in strong Hopes this better Change of Principles will prove a continued Happiness to You.

It is with great pleasure that I am ordered to Assure You from my Lord Guilford, the noble Guardian of the Young Lord Proprietarie, that his Lordship will make it his constant Care to promote the Welfare of this Province, and I can further assure You from the Personal Knowledge I have of the gentle and sweet disposition of the Lord Proprietarie, that there is a promising aspect his Lordship will prove a growing Blessing to Maryland

As to my Part, when I was honoured with a more immediate Commission under the Crowne I made it my careful Study to p^rserve and improve the true Interest of this Province both before and since my Arrival here, & whilst I am so happy to remain in this Station shall faithfully continue to Pursue that good End ; and do Solemnly Promise You that I will Act in my Sphere (so far as my Power extends) impartially between the Lord Proprietary and this People, And as it is not expected (and far from my Inclination) on his Lordship's Part) that I should pay my Court to him at y^r Expence, so on the other side, for gaining of Popular Applause, or any other motive whatever, will I betray that great Trust of Government reposed in me And so long as I make the Laws my Rule and Guide to Govern, and my Conscience the Judge of Equity, the Publick Good will be rightly maintained, & The Publick both by their Duty and Interest will support me in my Authority.

Gentlemen of the Lower House

You will readily observe the necessity of having the Laws run in the Stile of the Lord Proprietarie, as they formerly did, when this Government was Administred by his noble Ancestors. The manner and Method of doing this by the most easy and effectuall means is recommended to Your Consideration—allways wth regard to make the Charge as light as possible to the People, for I am so sencible of the Burthen of long and frequent Assemblys that I am willing to ease them for my Part of the Charge of the Seals on this occasion

The Experience I have gained since I have resided Among you, has learnt me how difficult, nay almost impossible it is for you to Comply with Your Rents, in mony Sterl, according to the Ten^r of Your Grants, from the Lord Proprietarie