

Lib. M. Subjects to a Contempt and Disrespect of the Authority of the honourable high Court of Chancery of Great Britain, and more especially to an Abuse of that August Name of Majesty, that it became a Duty highly incumbent on the Government of this Province to pursue all legal Methods for the discouraging the like for the future, and bringing to condign Punishment every such bold and insolent Offender; And for these purposes so necessary for the Preservation of Peace and Order, the high Sheriff of Baltimore County was authorized and empowered according to Law to arrest the Bodies of Every such turbulent Transgressor of the Laws of this Province and to exact the Payment of the Dues and Taxes which those who had in so extraordinary manner presumed to disown the Authority and Protection of this Government were obliged by the Laws thereof to pay to the same: But as it was with much Probability apprehended (as it happen'd) that those who had once dared either to Enter into or promote by the aforementioned Means such seditious and illegal Confederacies and Associations might by the same dangerous Principles be prevailed upon to resist with force that lawful Authority of this Government which was so intended to be executed over them, It was thought absolutely necessary to support the said Sheriff in the Execution of his Duty with such Assistance as might be sufficient to repel any Resistance or Violence that should be opposed or offered against such Sheriff, which prudent and justifiable Caution has been so much mistaken as to be interpreted a Levying of War against his Majestys Subjects of the Province of Pensilvania, upon this weak Pretence that those Parts of Baltimore County where the said Sheriff went to discharge his Duty aforesaid lye upwards of twenty Miles to the Northward of an East and West Line which was, by a solemn Agreement entered into by the Lord Proprietary of Maryland and the Proprietaries of Pensilvania, now subsisting and under the Cognizance of his Majestys high Court of Chancery, fixed and established as the Boundary of their respective Provinces; Whereas It is a truth too well known to be denied or the contrary to be believed, that this solemn Agreement can never have any Effect to fix and establish the Boundaries of the Provinces, unless the Proprietaries of Pensilvania should be able by the Justice of their Case to obtain a Decree in his Majestys high Court of Chancery for that Purpose in their favour, in which Court that Cause is still depending and under the Cognizance thereof, so that before the Point whether the Lord Proprietary shall be obliged in Conscience and Equity to perform that Agreement, be determined in his Majesty's high Court of Chancery, no justifiable Claim can be asserted by Virtue of any of the Boundaries expressed