

& rest our Provinces on a Sure Footing, against all Events of Time. The great share you have Acted, with Duty Respect & Regard to his Majesty & his Lord^p your Proprietor is well Satisfied therewith, and all friends here are of Opinion that had yo^r Strength by Forces been in any proportion to yo^r Resolution & abilities your Country wou^d have Reaped Both Honour & Advantage from you: And tho, your Command of his Majesty's Forces E'er this may have ceased wth you on the General's Arrival from hence, My Lord is happy by Experience from you, your being his Governor & Command^r in Chief of his Province, as likewise all will be Committed to your Care

The Proprietor, Vigilant to the Advantages of his Province and True to his promise sent, contain'd in his Answer to his Lower House of Assembly, on their desire Communicated to him to Obtain a free Importation of Foreign Parts to the Province he has taken the most Carefull Steps to the Gain of it, & in order thereto has got the Earl of Granville President of the Council, the Lords of the Treasury, and of Trade Consent, as a right thing to have moved for the bringing in a Bill into the Parliament for that Purpose; This seems a likely Security for the Carrying it, but I fear it; for the outward appearance of Men in power is so different to their inward Govern'd Chiefly by private Views, that things are often Subject to change wth them on the day of Tryal; I hope in this instance I am a wrong Prophet. Lord Vis. Barrington is to move the Petⁿ for the Bill next Thursday, M^r Aldmⁿ Baker of London intends strongly to Oppose it. I have done all I can to Draw him off, To no purpose; he is of New York & belongs to the Province as a Coresp^d by Pecuniary Commissⁿ the measure of self Interest makes him obdurate ag^t any other Province obtaining the Bill as it may be a loss to them that have it & are become Salt-Sellers to all the other Colonys, Granted them by Parliament the Importation of it from Foreign parts. Whatever Turn this affair takes, I assure you the Lord Proprietor has done his part to the Gain of it for Maryland; If it should turn out contrary he can't help it, as he must submit it & his Province to the over Ruling Powers & to Publick or Private Interest here at home. M^r Aldermⁿ Baker's Objection is, wth others who hint opposition all Numbers that the Intention of the Marylander's is to Gain by Illicite Trade, That they cure no Fish nor will they, I answer'd if that was real Truth the Objection was the same ag^t the Provinces that had the Lycence of Importation, Maryland pray'd for; if really a detriment to England by Clandestine Trade, than a Repeal-