

ordinary and Pedlars Lycences for Reasons only mentioned in his Instructions to you, he thinks it will be proper for you to mention the same to the House of Burgesses. As to the furious Address presented you about the Roman Catholicks, if any reflection they mean to their Proprietor, he holds 'em with Contempt; as his Conscience and Rule of Government being as he really is, sound Protestantism by Law Established. As to what you write that their warmth was increased by some Letters writ some time since intimating that if M^r Hanbury had not prevented it, I would have gott M^r Darnel the Attorney General to a Seat in the Council. M^r Hanbury I have charged with this Circumstance, who denys it and assures me he never thought or said any such thing of me; on the Contrary he knew my Opinion was to get rid of the Attorney General, which is most Certain. If the House could have grounded their Papist Suspicions of him by Facts, His Lordship would not have held him any time; But as you have since your Arrival given Assurances of the Attorney General's having duly Qualified himself agreeable to the Established Law under the most Sacred Obligation of the Oaths required, and that he has Acted conformable thereto, you having no Exception to him; with what Consistency of Justice could My Lord possibly discard him his office of Attorney, who had in no manner violated it. The only Exception against him being, in My Lord's Judgment, that his acquired Abilities in Law are not sufficient for the Executing that Office; therefore has Directed a Gratuity to him for his real Services, with his Orders to you to Remove him as his Attorney by appointing another more proper. For my Part as to Roman Catholicks, I hate no man for his opinion in Religion, be it to himself; the Principles and false Ground and Tyranny of that Religion I detest and have Abhorrence to, and Regard the Church of England by the Law Establish'd the Truth and best means of self Preservation, and to a future State of real Happiness. As to the Raw-head and Bloody Bone of Catholicks mention'd to you, the same abuse was in the Late Lord's time; 'tis the Old trick of Calumny made use of by Crafty Ill Designing men to Cover Ill purposes. The Justices of your Answer thereto My Lord nor none here Doubts the truth thereof.

I have no News to send you Save that of His Majesty's Arrival is daily expected from Hanover. Sir Edward Hawke is on a Cruize for the French Squadron, which is said is Sailed from Cadiz.

By our Papers some French Trading Ships have been taken and Sent into Our Harbours. God send good News