

at the time of year that Tar is made, the Light Tar Kiln might be Mistook for the Light House & thereby be the means of sundry ships being Lost & two Light Houses wo<sup>d</sup> be a much greater Expence then their Utility wo<sup>d</sup> be worth, therefore the Merch<sup>ts</sup> declin'd any Expence about it, if solicited at the Publick Expence, the Merch<sup>ts</sup> will apply to get the Duty laid on ships and Goods Be pleased to favour Me with the opinion of Maryland, I then shall be Sufficient to make report to their Lord<sup>ps</sup> as by them Directed.

M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Hunt the only Surviving Trustee in England has on searching his Papers found the Paper Curr<sup>y</sup> Act, empowering his Lord<sup>p</sup> to appoint & fill up on vacancy the Trustees. My Lord has approved of the Mess<sup>ts</sup> Hanburys for that purpose. I give you & Maryland Joy on the Success of Gen<sup>l</sup> Forbes, the gain of Fort Du Quesne & hope all apprehensions in y<sup>rs</sup> of the 3<sup>d</sup> of March are ceased, and that the Province enjoys Safety, the Enemy being far off. My Lord is sensible & with thanks to you for your services at ffort Frederick & Cumberland Last Year. Y<sup>rs</sup> of the 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> surprises, the Circumstance of the Lo: House declaring No Alderman of Annapolis had a Right by their Charter to Vote at the Election of Representatives for that City. The Charter granted by Queen Anne warrants no such proceedure. Declarative, in opinion here, an nonentity to the real substance of our constitution, what disqualifye Chief Magistrates of Essential Right & even with<sup>t</sup> cause. they can't mean a Scire Facias ag<sup>t</sup> the Charter, the Royal Charter Excludes not in Bar the Alderm<sup>v</sup> Vote. My Lord approves of y<sup>r</sup> proroguing the Assembly thereupon to avoid dispute & giving time for better Understanding. You speak of a Continuance of the Inspection Tobacco Law, w<sup>h</sup> you think the Upper House will pass; it is hoped they will exclude the Statute of Queen Anne being Effected, for the Regulation of foreign Coin, if not, by the Attor<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Similar opinion in this Let<sup>r</sup> on Act of Parliam<sup>t</sup> 'tis to be presum'd he will advice a Dissent to that Act. To y<sup>r</sup> mention of the Vote of the Lo: H. for complying with what Gen<sup>l</sup> Forbes asks to support 300 men during the winter. If they mean the Service of them. Men is to be restrain'd to Fort Frederick it is a most absurd proposal, as Limitation to the King's Com<sup>dr</sup> in Chief to the Proprietors Com<sup>miss</sup><sup>n</sup> to you, Prerogative's not Restrained by them. if they mean as you say That no Money is to be raised unless the Gent<sup>n</sup> of the Upper House will agree to the Mode of Taxation to w<sup>h</sup> they have so often signified their aversion, if so, the construction on the Lo. House is here, that they preclude doing in common in defence & Support of their King &