

At a Council held at the Council Chamber on Friday the 23^d day of May in the Sixteenth year of his Lordship's Dominion Annoq Domini 1766.

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Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor.

The honourable Benjamin Tasker, Cha^s Hammond, Sam^l Chamberlaine, Rich^d Lee, Bened^t Calvert Daniel Dulany, Jn^o Ridout, Cha^s Goldsborough and Henry Hooper Esq^{rs}

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Instructions, desiring their Opinion and Advice thereon.

Frederick Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon in America Lord Baron of Baltimore in the Kingdom of Ireland.

Orders and Instructions to be observed and pursued by Our Trusty and well beloved Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Our Lieutenant General and Chief Governor of Our Province of Maryland.

F: Baltimore

Whereas, It appears to me from Perusal of the Journals and Proceedings of the Assembly of Our said Province of Maryland, that various Altercations and Controversies have arisen and Subsisted for some years past between Our Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly as well touching the Application and Disposition of the Duties, Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures Arising from Ordinary Licences and other Licences Granted within Our said Province, as touching the Ordering and Regulating of the same Licences and the Collection and Receipt of the Duties, Fines Penalties and Forfeitures arising from the same, whereby Our Antient and Undoubted Rights and Prerogatives are drawn in Question, and Attempts made by one branch of the Legislative Authority in Opposition to the other Branches of the same Legislature to Divest us of Our said Revenue, and to appropriate the same at the Arbitrament and Appointment of one House, contrary to Our Dignity and equally Injurious to Our Public and Private Rights, to the great Interruption of the Business of Our said Assembly, and to the heavy Burthen and Expence of Our said Province. And we being advised, That the sole Power of granting, ordering, and regulating Licences within Our said Province with all Incidents thereto appertaining is vested in us by Virtue of Our Prerogative and Charter Rights, and the Antient Exercise and usage of the same by Our Noble Ancestors, I