

Lib. C. B. The Remonstrance of the Reverend Philip Hughes Rector
No. 20 of Coventry.

To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor and
Commander in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland.

Humbly Sheweth. That your Remonstrant was Inducted to the Parish of Coventry, on the fifth day of last December 1767, and immediately repaired thither. Hearing of the factious Spirit, which did prevail among some of the Parishioners, and earnestly desirous to have Peace restored on the sound Basis of Harmony, and Good will, your Remonstrant obtained Letters, from a very worthy Gentleman, to facilitate an Introduction to the two Principal Persons in the Opposition to a Lawful Induction, and the reputed Authors of all the disturbances and distractions begun by them and fomented among some deluded People.

That he met his Vestry on the 21st of said Month in the Church Yard of Rahoboth, that his Induction was then and there Read, that the Church had been secured by the Vestry, with Boulds and Nails and the Key taken from the Sexton, by them, some Weeks before your Remonstrant was appointed.

p. 11 That M^r Allen, in the Name of the Vestry, informed your Remonstrant, that they would be well pleased if the People, who should be assembled for that purpose, would elect him, they being the real Patrons, because they were the Founders, but if they did elect Him he must resign the Governor's Induction, and take One from them, and then he should receive the whole Salary, lacking one pound of Tobacco; That the Vestry, as Representatives of the People, would receive no Clergyman without their Election.

That when your Remonstrant demanded the Keys to perform Divine Service, on Christmas Day, he was refused until the Consent of the People should be obtained, and, not hearing from any Person on that head, he took Possession of his Church on Christmas day, read his Induction, then Prayers and Preached before Sufficient Evidence, and the next day took the Oaths by Law required; That the Meeting of the Parishioners, for their pretended Election, was appointed on the Eleventh day of last January, at which time he was desired to attend, which he refused to do; That Papers were posted up in several publick places, requiring the Attendance of the Parishioners, to know if they would accept of the Minister Inducted by the Governor, which Question being put on the Day appointed, they refused, the Greater part by far having never seen nor known your Remonstrant, It was a sufficient Objection to the Leaders that he shewed a Spirit not suitable to their purpose, that, at this Tumultuous and Seditious Meet-