

L. H. J. tion of our Proceedings in this present Sessions of Assembly. Wee blush to Acq^t your L^{dps} that your friendly Endeavours that way, have not met with the Regard that was due to soe noble & Generous an Undertaking and wee must Intreat your Lordships to believe that it is with regret and Very unwilling[ly] that wee are forced to Charge our Selves with the Defence of Such things as are Said to be Carped at already and will in all probability become the Subject Matter of Complaint.

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The Roman Catholicks Ever since the Restoration of the late L^d Baltmore to this Govern^t have been Very Active and busy in projecting Schemes for Introducing Papists into Offices, and from thence as we may reasonably Conjecture, had they not been Prevented would have Asserted their Pretended Claim of Right To Share in the Publick Admtm of the Affairs of Government.

But the Opposition they met withall in the prosecution of this Designe and the frequent hints and notices of their being Roman Catholicks given them by his Excy with designe to Keep them Quiett put them upon getting Sundry Eminent Lawyers Opinions Concerning the Suspension of an Act of Assembly made Anno 1704 Entituld an Act to prevent the growth of Popery within this Province which Suspension was Continued and Confirmed by one other Act of Assembly made Anno 1706 which was not to determine untill her late Maj^{ty} Queen Anns Royall will and Pleasure Should be Signified therefore.

The Gent of the Romish Communion believeing themselves Secure in those Learned Councils Opinions upon Our Suspending Act neither regarded the notices given them, nor did they Observe Such Measures as a people under their Circumstances should have kept altho his Excy Oftentimes Informed them that her Late Majestie Queen Ann's Royall will and Pleasure had been Signified to him in her Royall Instructions Eight Years after the passing that Suspended Act wherein the papists were Expressly Excepted out of the Indulgence her Maj^{ty} was graciously pleased to Extend unto all other Perswasions here.

Thus have the Roman Catholicks made use of An Act of Indulgence which had no other motives Then a Charitable Tenderness in regard to their Consciences and Manner of Worship as a Barrier to all Manner of proceedings in Govern^t ag^t them and made Slight of the late Queens Instructions as not Concerned therein altho your L^{dps} had given them in Charge unto your Lievt^t Governour here. Now seeing that

p. 106 the Roman Catholicks are the Open and Professed ffrinds of