

L. H. J. It is obvious my View in Laying this Scheme was purely To Promote a Common good, this obliged me to represent it to their Lordships as I now Recomend it to you, that it may be again Agreed on and Reenacted. But that you may be able to Evince the Justice and Conveniency of this Act against the designing Insinuations of it's Self Interested accusers, who on pretence of friendship, would Impose on his Lordship to his owne and the Country's Damage; It will require your
 p. 5 Care to Compare the value of the Rents that have been annually collected on the former Establishment with the Sums that have been paid His Lordshipp's Agent Since the Commencing this Act, that lays the two Shillings on Each hogshhead exported by which his Lordship may the better judge of his friends, and of the truth of this position, you have time before you, and it is the concern of Every ffreeholder that falls under your Circumspection in this Particular.

I am commanded by his Sacred Majestyes Instructions to take care that Trade in all it's branches be duly Regulated in this his Province. I do therefore in his name Recommend it to you, that the Ascertainning the Gauge and Tare of your Tobacco hogshheads be not in any wise Neglected on the Expiration of the Present Act.

Gentlemen.

The Claim made by the Papists of a Right to hold all Offices in this Government in equal degree with the Protestants, seems Still to be kept on foot by them, thô some few there are, and very few of that perswasion whose Prudence renders them more Cautious. Yet I observe they all forbear making any renunciation of their pretentions and altho the many defeats, they have met with dureing my administration, may have discouraged them from an open procedure yet it is highly probable they wait a more favourable conjuncture to put their designs in practice.

Their attempts have already given great uneasiness and Heart burnings to his Majestyes faithfull Subjects here, and in perticular created to me, your Governour, much Trouble and Inquietude. I can truely say my Life has been Uncomfortable, from that period I first Rejected their projects, and am now become a memorable Instance of the effects of Popish malice.

I am Informed there have been late affronts and Insults offered by papists and their adherents to others in Authority who fall not into their Measures, by which it Seems to be their Resolution to Endeavour not only by Secret Calumnies but even by violence to Terrify all good men from opposing them.