

L. H. J. to invert the Order and End of your Office of Counsellors You are pleas'd to say in your last message that your not giving in to our measures concerning the Oath has drawn that Calumny on you. We say we esteem it no ways necessary for faithfull Counsellors to know what will please their prince before they give their advice &c Which tho' we Spoke Generally of such as Studied rather to please than to Serve, you are pleas'd to lay claim to as part of your Character and call it a Calumny thrown on you by us and we find because we give you our opinion of what good Consequence your Communicating to his L^{pp} your Sense of our Resolves might have been you take that as a Calumny & a Charge of Neglect for not advising his L^{pp} on the late Address We hope
 p. 185 in all this there is not the least appearance of Calumny, but if your Honours are pleas'd to call our reasonings with you by such names as you are displeas'd at we must leave you to your liberty who best know how to describe your Selves and Actions.

We did not Charge your Honours with having had the address for it was not directed to you, we only Supposed you to be acquainted with it, which though you were not Judicially as a House, yet the most of you were in a private way, and every member might have been, for it was Entred at the end of the Journall of this House which was return'd to the Secretary to be Copied and sent to England, and now remains publick Record. But as our Message only Mencōned That if when your Hon^{rs} were acquainted with the address you had then appriz'd his L^{pp} &c. We desire you to consider how Impossibilities are thereby made part of your Duty, or what Instances you have of our forgetting ourselves, or of any precipitancy or Sanguinity in the pursuit of what you Say we never once considered, for we only Suppos'd it might have been of use to his L^{pp} for you to have apprized him when, and not before you were acquainted with the Address

We heartily wish we were as Good masters of policy & prudence of Government as you think yourselves to be; we should not then have called that part of the oath an Innovation that was Enacted in the Reign of Edward the 3^d nor have waited long for the opinion of the best Lawyers in England concerning what was most agreeable to the constitucōn and publick Weal of Maryland, as you propos'd in your former, tho' you deviate in the present message, in this particular; as well as forgetting that your objections to the Oath was in points that you do not now mention and Since the oath as you now propose is Exactly the same Words that M^r Attorney Generall propos'd, Saving that you Transpose the word Rea-