

the Table which was afterwards read by the Clerk of the House in L. H. J. the words following (Viz.)

To the Honourable Benedict Leonard Calvert Esq^r Governor of Maryland.

The Humble Address of the House of Delegates

May it Please your Honour

We his Majestys most Dutifull and Loyall Subjects the Representatives of the freemen of Maryland, return your Honour our humble and hearty thanks for the great regard you are Pleased to express for the Prosperity and Welfare of the Province; And we do, with the greatest Sincerity, assure your honour, that we are firmly resolved faithfully to discharge to the utmost of our Power our Duty to our most gracious Sovereign to his Lordship the Lord Proprietary, and the People we represent.

Altho we are really concerned that there should be any Difference between his Lordship and his Tenants, yet it is the greatest Consolation imaginable to us to know that they have given no Occasion for a Difference; unless a firm Attachment to the Interest and welfare of their Country and a fix'd resolution to hand the same Rights and Liberties which they derive from their Ancestors, and the Laws of their Mother Country and this Province Pure and undefiled, to their Posterity be such. If these be Causes of Differences we hope they will never cease. What the Votes were that alarmed his Lordship we cannot guess, unless they were the Resolves of the Lower House of Assembly, wherein the Upper House concurred relating to the Constitution of the Province; which Resolves we do Assure your Honour we still firmly adhere to. The Sovereign Right of the Crown of Great Brittain in and to this Province, as it is under God, our greatest Security, so we Account it our Chiefest happiness And we do Affirm that the People we represent and our selves are so far from a thought injurious to that right that they and we would spend the last Drop of their & our Blood in the Defence of it. p. 26

We are at a Loss to Conceive how the laying the Judges under the Obligation of An Oath to Administer Justice according to the Laws that ought to be the rule of all their Decisions could give his Lordship any Apprehensions or oblige his Lordship to dissent to an Act that has no other Tendency nor can without the greatest Violence to its sence and the Intention of the Makers of it contained in Clear and explicit Terms be otherwise Construed but to Oblige the Magistrates to do their Duty. Nor can the words of that Oath by any means in our humble Opinion deserve so heavy a Charge, as an Intent to Effect his Majesties Royall Prerogative in any much less in Severall of its Branches either in those reserved peculiarly to his Sovereign Person or in those Delegated to or deposited and