

every Private person in Maryland hath not a Right to enquire into, and inform themselves of, without the least legal Impeachment of their Conduct; yet the whole is now Censured, and that too for not mentioning therein the Government and Lord Proprietary; and which, if done, had also been an accumulated Crime, since the Desire of being well informed of the Truth of facts, is turned into a Diffidence of your Veracity, even our honest and plain Declaration, that they were private Instructions, and the Evidence thereof, as not being part of our Journal, is turned to a Crime, and the whole Aggravated as if intended to sap the foundation of all Order and Government; and the Word and Credit of the House of Delegates of Maryland is set at nought. With what views such tortious Meanings are put on our good intentions, we must refer to the Unbiassed.

And pray pardon us, if here we are obliged to tell your Excellency, that some in Power, and not we, that make the Distinction between the Lord Proprietary and the people; and as from the abundance of the Heart the Mouth Speaketh, these their words will shew, viz. "The Lord Proprietary has the Sea between him and the Indians, they cannot hurt him; and the Reprisals to be made for Satisfaction for the Land, will be made on the People." This way of reasoning persons in high Trust with his Lordship and your Excellency, have used to shew, that as his Lordship had nothing to fear, so he was not under any obligation to make the least satisfaction to the Indians, for the Land he sells his Tenants, the People of Maryland, his Majesty's Liege Subjects. From this way we may conclude the Indians insist on a greater Sum than the people can well Spare, rather than admit the Lord Proprietary to give six Pence (however consistent with Natural Right the Demand on him may be), they would suffer the Terrible Consequence of the Resentment of the disappointed Indians. p. 425

We may reasonably expect, that what has been said will sufficiently convince your Excellency, that the said Instructions have been put in a wrong light by the Message; and hope you will pardon us, as being obliged to tell you, that if a more prudent Conduct be not used, in bringing the Treaty intended to a Conclusion, than (from what appears to us, and by the Public Accounts) has hitherto been, very little Credit or Honour will redound to the negotiators, or advantage to the Province.

And lest any Words contained in our Address last Session, "for allowing such further sums, as may be necessary for defraying the Expence and Charges of the said Commissioners," should be taken or construed to extend to an unlimited Vote of Credit, on the fund of 3^d per Hogshead, for Arms and Ammunition, contrary to the sense of the said Address, and the Intention of this House, at that time, In order now to clear up that matter, we beg leave to let your Excellency know, that we shall not agree to Charge either that fund