

Mr Speaker communicates to the House the following Message from the Governor viz

L. H. J.
Liber No. 46

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

I acquainted you by my former Message in general Terms, what his Lordship had been pleased to signify to me in relation to his Quit Rents, but since you desire a more particular Explanation of his Lordship's Expectations in this matter, I must inform you, that he cannot think any Composition reasonable under Five Thousand Pounds Sterling per annum, and although what he now receives yearly may not amount fully to that Sum, occasioned by the Arrears, which will certainly come in some Time or other, as the Lands are chargeable with them, yet it falls so little short, that in the Length of the Time for which he may be willing such Composition shall continue, his increasing Income must necessarily exceed it, in a very great Proportion, his Rents being augmented within these five years to almost four Hundred Pounds per Annum, besides a great many Certificates not yet examined, many still in Hands of the Surveyors, and Land Warrants located for great Quantities of Land, but not yet executed. p. 500

This his Lordship is so sensible of, that no other motive than what the Lower House expressed in their Address in the Session 1742, could induce his Lordship to hearken to any Proposal about his Quit Rents, but since in that Address in which they made a Proposal about the Quit Rents, the Lower House declared, " That they were inclined to do all in their Power, to bring about that good Harmony which had theretofore subscribed between his Lordship and his Ancestors, and the good People of this Province, and that if his Lordship was inclinable to come into their Proposal, they hoped the Directions which should be given to his Governor for the Purposes aforesaid, might contribute towards accomplishing that good Agreement between his Lordship and Tenants so much desired." And as you now desire me to communicate to you any Circumstances which I may think conducive to the Completion of this Matter, I must frankly tell you, that a Disposition in you not to be less forward in what may concern the Honour of Government, and Defence of the Province, than his Lordship's Inclination for the well being of his Tenants, will be the most likely Method to obtain the great End of Ease and Happiness to the whole Province, and consequently Satisfaction to his Lordship, and give me leave to assure you I shall reckon it one of the most fortunate Occurrences in my Life, if I could be in any Manner instrumental in procuring his Lordships Approbation of what may be concluded on here in a matter which so nearly concerns the Quiet and Welfare of Maryland.

T. Bladen

The House adjourns 'til 2 of the Clock.