

your Obedience; and we sincerely pray, that divine Providence may, at all Times, guide your Councils, and direct your Arms, so as to reduce your Enemies to a Compliance with your Royal Will. L. H. J.  
Liber No. 46

Your faithful Subjects, the Delegates of Maryland, on the first notice of that Conquest, by his Excellency Governour Shirley's Letter, communicated to us by the honourable Thomas Bladen Esq<sup>re</sup> the Lord Proprietary's Governour here, did all that was in our Power to contribute towards maintaining the same, by passing a Bill in our House, granting the Sum of three thousand Pounds, Current money, to be applied to the Purchase of Provisions, as also half a Ton of Gun Powder, and two Tons and an half of Lead, and Leaden Ball, to be taken out of our publick Magazine, for the Service of that Garrison. In which Bill was likewise included, a Duty of two Pence Access to your Majesty free and easy and which our distant Scitua-Sterling per Hogshead, on all Tobaccos to be exported out of this Province for the Support of an Agent in Great Britain, to render our tion, and being under a Proprietary Government, makes absolutely necessary; which occasioned his Lordship's honourable Council to refuse passing the same, that thereby your faithful Subjects might want the means of Access to your Royal Person for Redress of the many Grievances we labour under, and which we have for many years been endeavouring to lay before your most sacred Majesty: And we esteem it not the least of our Misfortunes, that we are prevented from being equally serviceable to your Majesty, with our other Fellow subjects upon this Continent, on the present Occasion.

We therefore most humbly implore, and request, that from your Princely Affection, and general Regard for all your loving Subjects, you will give a favourable Interpretation to our Actions on this Occasion, and that the Loss of that Bill, and the affectionate supply intended for your Majesty's Service, may not be imputed to us; and that your Majesty will believe, that none of your Subjects exceed us, in a hearty Zeal for your Majesty's Service, Royal Person and Family, which we have, and at all Times, to the utmost of our Power, on all Occasions shall demonstrate.

Signed by Order and on behalf of the House of Delegates.

Edw. Sprigg, Speaker.

M<sup>r</sup> Speaker communicates to the House the three following messages from his Excellency, viz.

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly.

In Answer to your Address wherein you desire to know by what Authority one Pound of Tobacco is assessed and levied on every Taxable Inhabitant within this Province: The said one Pound of Tobacco per Taxable, is assessed and levied by virtue of an Act of Assembly for the ordering and regulating the militia of this Province for the better Defence and security thereof, which you will find in the Body of Laws, Page 101.

T. Bladen