

L. H. J. To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor and Commander
 Liber No. 47 in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland.
 March 6

The humble Address of the House of Delegates of the said Province.

May it please your Excellency,

We, his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the Freemen of Maryland, in Assembly convened, beg leave to represent to your Excellency the impending Dangers we apprehend from the Growth of Popery, and the valuable and extensive Possessions of Popish Priests and Jesuits, within this Province.

As Influence and Power are every where the inseparable Concomitants of Property and Wealth, we find, that our Mother Country, and other Protestant States, have thought it necessary to guard effectually against the Jesuits, and other Popish Emissaries, by laying them under particular Restrictions and Incapacities: And if their restless Genius, and the Vicinity of the French, be duly considered, we conceive the like Precautions cannot be thought unnecessary here. We humbly trust, from your Excellency's known Attachment to the present happy Establishment both in Church and State, that your Excellency will put into all Places of Trust and Profit, none but faithful Protestant Subjects, known as such by their religious and civil Principles: And that you will take all possible Care that the Laws may be duly executed for our common Safety, Protection and Encouragement, as well as for the Preservation of this his Majesty's Dominion.

p. 395 Which was read and assented to, and signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

Ordered, That Mr. Goldsborough and Mr. Stoddert, do acquaint his Excellency, that this House hath prepared an Address to be presented to him, and desires to know when, and where, he will please to receive it: They return and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governor signified he would receive the Address immediately, in the Conference Chamber.

Ordered, That Mr. Murdock, and 13 more, do present the Address.

His Excellency communicates to Mr. Speaker the following Message,

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

I Cannot think the Reason offered in your Yesterday's Address, sufficient for preremptorily refusing any Assistance to the Virginians, at this Juncture; and if we duly consider the present Posture of Affairs in Virginia and on the Ohio, I believe we shall not doubt our being sufficiently authorized by the Earl of Holderness's Letter, to engage in the intended Expedition, and to give our Troops Instructions to act in Concert with those which are levying in the