

L. H. J.
Liber No. 48
April 24

I thank you for candidly informing me, what some People expect and desire with regard to M.^r Henry Darnall, and his Brother, who were both promoted to Places of Trust and Profit within this Government by my Predecessors: Had you also shewn, that they have not duly and impartially executed such Offices, I should, indeed, have thought that your Expectations were not in the least unreasonable.

I am told, that since M.^r Darnall's Son, who went to a foreign University for Education, has finished his Studies and returned to his Father, he has taken the Oaths, and by his Professions, and Attendance on Divine Service at the Parochial Church, gives all possible Proof of his being a sound Protestant. However, for my own Part, I think none of our Youth should be sent or suffered to go to Foreign Popish Seminaries; and I promise you, that whenever you shall think proper to prepare a Bill to prevent it, I shall readily give my Consent to its being Enacted into a Law. As to M.^r Darnall's Brother, I cannot learn that he has sent any of his Family Abroad to be Educated in Principles that he himself disavows, and am given to understand that he suffers no Priest to come to his House: I will also, if such a Caution be necessary, recommend it to him to be particularly careful to keep his Children from any Company, whose Conversation might possibly instill Notions into their Minds, that he, as a Protestant, must condemn: And as I do not, upon Enquiry, find, that he is at all disagreeable, or has rendered himself obnoxious, to that Part of the People among whom the Office he holds obliges him to reside, or that any Body could recommend a Person better qualified to discharge the Duty of that Office, or who would do it with greater Integrity and Impartiality, I have not fixed on any Gentleman whom I would appoint his Successor.

Now I have gone through that Part of your Address, which seemed more particularly to concern myself, and which, for that Reason, I have taken more particular Notice of; permit me to make a few Observations on the other and less interesting Parts also: The Prorogation of the Assembly so soon after I returned an Answer to your first Address on this Subject, you will be pleased to remember was at your own Request; and tho' it precluded you from the Possibility of making a Reply that Session, yet it afforded you an Opportunity, and gave you Time, to examine thoroughly into the several Facts mentioned as well in your Address as in my Answer, and might have prevented your insisting a second Time on any Matters, of the Truth of which you were not absolutely certain.

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I cannot pass over that Period where you tell me, That tho' you had been mistaken as to some inconsiderable Circumstances, you think there would have been no Room to Triumph, without intimating to you, that, if that Sentence be addressed to me, it might have been spared; for I can assure you, that tho' you should be mistaken