

Uprightness: I had not, as I observed to the Lower House at that Time, had long Experience of him, and tho' I did soon afterwards appoint another Gentleman Attorney-General in his Stead, yet I was not induced to take that Step by any Suspicion of Mr. Darnall's being such a Person as ought not to be Trusted; and, Gentlemen, if they by whom the Lower House of Assembly was at that Time, or hath been since composed, entertained such a Suspicion, I cannot help thinking they used their Constituents, as well as the Lord Proprietary and Myself, very ill, in not advising me of it; for, had they done so, we should not probably have suffered the Loss that is now likely to fall on us by Mr. Darnall's Failure. But indeed I cannot prevail on myself to believe that (however averse some People may have been to his continuing Attorney-General, from an Apprehension that he might be inclined to shew Favour to Persons of the Romish Persuasion) either your Predecessors, or You, apprehended any Inconvenience would arise to the Public from Mr. Darnall's acting in the Capacity of Naval Officer, much less that he was likely to embezzle the Country's Money; otherwise I cannot account, Gentlemen, for your suffering so many Sessions to pass (as will I suppose cost the Province more than Twenty Thousand Pounds) since he was appointed Naval Officer, without once calling for his Accounts (which ought to have been lodged with your Clerk) and inspecting the Trustees Account, to see whether he had punctually performed his Duty, and in particular whether he had remitted to the said Trustees in London, the Money which you knew he must have collected by Virtue of the Laws of this Province. I say, Gentlemen, that if your Predecessors, or You, were apprehensive that his Conduct was not upright and just, I cannot account for yours, since I cannot suppose you connived so long at his Proceedings purely that you may have an Opportunity of saying at this Time, that he owes the Country a much larger Sum, over and above the Penalty of his Office Bond, than I fear will ever be paid.

L. H. J.
Liber No. 51
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As it would be, Gentlemen, very unjust to take Occasion, from the Misbehaviour of One, or of Two Officers, to insinuate any Thing to the Disadvantage of the Rest, I flatter myself you will, when you speak of Mr. Darnall's Conduct, avoid general Reflections, and distinguish the Innocent from the Guilty, being satisfied that none of you imagine any personal Favour or Attachment induced me to continue that Gentleman so long in Office: I shall be sorry if what you have said should lead others to think so, or to suppose, that in bestowing Places of Trust or Profit, I have been influenced by such Motives rather than by a Regard for the Good of the Community, which you may be assured I shall always keep in View: And if at any Time hereafter, while I may reside among you, it should happen that an unworthy Person, (for I must often rely on the Recommendation of others) be appointed to an Office, you may

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