

L. H. J.
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of State's Letter, to suggest that for Want of an Agent appointed by that House alone to represent their Transactions in a true Light, our most gracious Sovereign and his Ministers, had not been fully and truly informed of the repeated generous Offers, which the People of this Province had heretofore made by their Representatives, to raise very large Supplies for his Majesty's Service, I could not help considering the Suggestion as a Reflection on myself, for had not the King's Ministers been informed of the several Votes of the Lower House for raising Supplies, and of their Proceedings in Consequence of such Votes, I should not have discharged my Duty: To vindicate myself therefore from the Blame which the latter Part of your Address seemed calculated to cast on me, I took the Liberty to reply to this Purport, That if the Journals of the House of Delegates, and the Bills offered by them to the Upper House, may be supposed to contain a true Representation of their Proceedings, I presumed there could not be any great Necessity for the Appointment of a Person at home, under the Denomination of an Agent, to acquaint his Majesty or his Ministers with the Transactions of the House of Delegates, or to inform them of the Offers that House had made to raise Supplies for his Service, since the Journals of that House had been transmitted for their Information, particularly the Journal containing the Messages that passed between the two Houses on the Subject of their new Supply Bill. But say you, in your last Address, "the great End of employing an Agent, is to represent and bring to a final Determination any Matters in Dispute with the Proprietary, by which the People may apprehend themselves aggrieved." Had you, Gentlemen, in your first Address, given such a Reason for the Lower House's desiring an Agent, I should not have considered it as any Reflection on me for having neglected my Duty, nor have taken Notice of it in the Manner I did, though I might not even then have seen the Expediency of such a Person's being appointed; for whatever some of you would insinuate, and endeavour to make other Persons believe, the Lord Proprietary is, in my Opinion, not much concerned in the Controversy which subsists between the House of Delegates (or rather a small Majority of that House) and the Gentlemen who constitute another Branch of this Legislature, on the Subject of a Supply Bill; and whether the Sums which have at Times been voted for his Majesty's Service, shall be raised by that particular Mode of Taxation, which those, who are fond of Innovations, seem intent on introducing and establishing in this Province, his Lordship, I am confident, is very far from being averse to contributing in Proportion with the Inhabitants of this Province towards Supplies for his Majesty's Service, though I don't suppose he would with, however zealous he might be to promote his Sovereign's Service, or desirous to advance the Reputation of Maryland, to have either Branch of the Legislature give their Assent to any