

To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq: Governor and Commander  
in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland,

U. H. J.  
Liber No. 36  
April 24

The Humble Address of the Upper House of Assembly

May it Please Your Excellency

That you may be able to judge of the Present Disposition of the Majority of those who have been chosen by the People of this Province to represent them in Assembly or rather of the few Gentlemen by whose Opinion that Majority seems to be directed, and that you may know how Little probability there is of the Business being done for which the Assembly was at this time convened, we take the Liberty to present to Your Excellency a Copy of a message which was brought Us the 16 of this Month from the Lower House, by way of Answer to one that was sent to them by this House, at the time we returned, with a Negative, the Supply Bill they had offered Us; Finding upon our reading this Bill, that it was framed on the same vicious Plan, on which all the Bills for granting Supplies for his Majesty's Service, which have been offered by the Lower House for these last four Years were framed, & with Respect to the material parts of it, very little different from that which His Majesty's late Attorney General, the present Lord Chief Justice Pratt, in the opinion Communicated by your Excellency to both Houses of Assembly two Years ago, held to be such a one as ought not to have been passed into a Law, We thought it would answer no good End to propose Amendments since the little regard that House had paid to the Sentiments of this Communicated to them in two long Messages in the year 1758 left Us no room to except they would now remove the Objections we may have repeated and therefore as we think was our duty we Signified to them that their Bill would not Pass intimating to them at the same time that if they were really Desirous to comply with his Majesty's Requisitions made known to them at the Opening of this Session it would be an easy Matter for them to prepare a Bill for raising such a Sum as would be Sufficient for the purpose by some more Simple Mode of Taxation, from this General Intimation of Ours, Your Excellency will perceive the Gentlemen have agreable to their Usual Candour and Ingenuity taken Occasion with a view we presume of Misleading their Constituents to Suggest that by some Simple mode of Taxation we mean any Mode that would Leave the Estate of the Lord Proprietary of the Offices in this Government untouched or as they are pleased to Speak very Complaisantly handled, as if it was impossible for them to have Taxed either His Lordships Estate or those Offices otherwise than by such an intricate perplexed and unequal Bill as that House in order to manifest their Superlative Zeal for the Kings Service seem Determined to Adhere to, Had they been really of Opinion That those two Natives [sic] induced Us to treat their Bill in the Manner we have now done for the Ninth time

p. 61

p. 62