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[INSTRUCTIONS OF FREDERICK, LORD BALTIMORE, DATED FEBRUARY 7, 1765, TO GOVERNOR HORATIO SHARPE REFER TO THE CONTROVERSIES BETWEEN THE UPPER HOUSE AND THE LOWER HOUSE IN REGARD TO THE DISPOSITION OF FEES OF LICENSES FROM ORDINARIES, AND AFTER ASSERTING HIS ANCIENT AND UNDISPUTED RIGHTS TO THESE, ENJOINS SHARPE UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES TO ASSENT TO ANY BILL WHICH IN ANY WAY INVADES HIS RIGHT TO ORDINARY LICENSES OR FINES ACCRUING FROM THEM, WITHOUT A PROVISIO THAT SUCH A BILL REMAIN SUSPENDED AND INEFFECTUAL FOR AT LEAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS AFTER ITS PASSAGE, OR UNTIL HIS WILL IS SIGNIFIED. A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT VERSION OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE FOUND IN THE ARCHIVES VOLUME XXXII, 143-144.]

FREDERICK, ABSOLUTE LORD AND PROPRIETARY OF THE PROVINCES OF AVALON & MARYLAND IN AMERICA, LORD BARON OF BALTIMORE IN THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND.

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To Our Right Trusty and Well Beloved Horatio Sharpe Esq.^f
Our Lieut.^t Governor and Commander in Chief in and over our Province of Maryland aforesaid.

Whereas It Appears to Me, from Perusal of the Journals and Proceedings of the Assembly of our s.^d Province of Maryland, That Various Altercations & Controversys have arisen, & subsisted for some years past, between our Upper & Lower Houses of Assembly, as well touching the application & disposition of the Duties Fines Penaltys & forfeitures arising from Ordinary Licenses and other Licences Granted within our said Province, as touching the Ordering and Regulating of the Same Licenses, and the Collection and receipt of the Duties Fines and Forfeitures arising from the same, whereby, our Antient and Undoubted Rights & Prerogatives are drawn in question, and Attempts made by one branch of the Legislative Authority, in Opposition to the other branches of the same Legislature, to Divest us of our s.^d Revenue, and to appropriate the same, at the Arbitram.^t & Appointm.^t of one House, contrary to our Dignity, and equally Injurious to our Publick and Private rights to the great Interruption of the business of our said Assembly and to the heavy burthen & Expence of our said Province; And We being advised, That the sole Power of Granting, Ordering, and Regulating Licences within our said Province, with all Incidents thereto appertaining, is vested in us, by Virtue of our Prerogative and Charter rights, and the Antient Exercise and Usage of the same by our Noble Ancestors. I Do therefore hereby strictly Enjoyn and