

L. H. J.
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and singular the officers and ministers of us our heirs and successors and enjoining them under our heavy displeasure, that they do not at any time presume to attempt anything to the contrary of the premises or that may in any wise contravene the same, but that they, at all times as is fitting, do aid and assist the aforesaid now Baron of Baltimore, and his heirs, and the aforesaid inhabitants, and merchants of the province of Maryland aforesaid, and their servants and ministers, factors and assigns in the fullest use and enjoyment of this our Charter”

Our ancestors firmly relying on the royal promise, and upon these plain and express declarations of their inherent, natural, and constitutional rights, at the hazard of their lives and fortunes, transported themselves and families to this country, then scarcely known, and inhabited only by savages: The prospect of a full and peaceable enjoyment of their liberties and properties, softened their toils, and strength'ned them to overcome innumerable difficulties. Heaven prospered their endeavors and has given to your Majesty a considerable increase of faithful subjects, improved the trade, and added riches to the mother country. Thus happy in the enjoyment of the rights and privileges of natural born subjects, have they, and their posterity lived and been treated as freemen; and thus hath the great fundamental principle of the constitution, that no man shall be taxed but with his own consent, given by himself or by his representative been ever extended, and preserved inviolate in this remote part of your Majesty's dominions, until questioned lately by your parliament

It is therefore with the deepest sorrow, may it please your most excellent Majesty, that we now approach the throne on behalf of your faithful subjects of this province, with all humility to represent to your Majesty that by several statutes lately enacted in the parliament of Great Britain by which sundry rates and duties are to be raised and collected within your Majesty's colonies in America for the sole and express purpose of raising a revenue, this great fundamental principle of the constitution, is, in our apprehension, infringed. The people of this province, royal sire, are not in any manner, nor can they ever possibly be effectually represented in the british parliament; while therefore your Majesty's commons of Great Britain continue to give and grant the property of the people in America, your faithful subjects of this, and every other colony must be deprived of that most invaluable privilege, the power of granting their own money; and of every opportunity of manifesting by chearful aids, their attachment to their King, and zeal for his service, they must be cut off from all intercourse with their sovereign, and expect not to hear of the royal approbation, they must submit to the power of the commons of Great Britain, and, precluded the blessings, shall scarcely retain the name of freedom