

That this convention never intermeddled, nor was disposed to interfere with the affairs of Virginia, but hath at all times shewn a due and proper respect to the convention of that colony, and all occasions must have evinced their sincere and tender regard for the people thereof; and this convention cannot be of opinion, that the convention of Virginia could believe that this convention promoted governor Eden's passage "to assist in their destruction under a pretence of his retiring to England."

That this convention, and the council of safety for the time being, where the only proper and adequate judges of the propriety and expediency of suffering governor Eden to depart out of this province, and have proceeded in that matter upon evidence which was satisfactory to themselves, and to which the convention of Virginia were strangers.

That had the convention of Virginia been in possession of the evidence upon which the council of safety and this convention proceeded, they could not have been at a loss to account for the council of safety their declining to seize governor Eden, or for the convention having promoted his passage (not as is unjustly insinuated in the resolution of the Virginia convention, to assist in their destruction, but really) to England, whither this convention hath the best grounds to believe he would go by the first opportunity. Nor can the address alluded to in the said resolution of the convention of Virginia, in the opinion of this convention, be considered as enabling, nor was it meant to enable governor Eden to assume the character of a public agent, nor can this convention discover how the said governor would thereby be enabled to promote divisions and disunion amongst the colonies; but the same was presented as a testimony due to the governor of the sense this convention entertained of his fair and impartial representations of the principles, motives, and views of the people of this colony, so far as the same had come to their knowledge.

That although this convention was sensible that in the absence of the governor the government in its old form would devolve to the president of the council of state, and although such president should be under equal obligations with the governor to perform the ministerial mandates, yet was the convention fully satisfied that it would not be equally, if at all, in the power of the president to perform such mandates; and therefore this convention cannot but consider the imputing their proceedings "to some undue influence of governor Eden under the mask of friendship to America, and of the proprietary interest to Maryland," as groundless and unjust; nor is this convention able to discover how their vote for the departure