

M A R Y L A N D G A Z E T T E

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, May 22, 1751.

To His Excellency SAMUEL OGLE, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of Maryland;

The humble ADDRESS of the Upper House of Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

WE return your Excellency our most sincere Thanks, for your kind and obliging Speech at the Opening of this Session; and we gratefully acknowledge your unwillingness to put the Country to the Expence of an Assembly, and to call us from home at an inconvenient Season of the Year.

The Shortness of the last Crop of Corn afforded a very melancholy Prospect, and nothing but the mild Winter, with which Providence favour'd us, could have prevented so great a Scarcity, in several Parts of the Country, as would have been attended with terrible Consequences, especially to the poorer Sort. The Want of Bread is one of the greatest Calamities that Men are subject to; and therefore the most effectual Care ought to be taken to prevent it: And as an Assembly must not only be very expensive, but must also unavoidably take up so much Time in getting together, and in framing and publishing any Law, to prohibit the Exportation of Grain upon the most pressing Occasion, that very probably the Remedy would be so late, as the Length of Time would give Opportunities to export greater Quantities than could be spared. As to our Part, we shall concur in any Expedient that may save Charge to the Country, and avert the Calamity of wanting Bread.

We are convinced, that the Happiness of any Country must be greatly promoted by the Goodness of it's Highways; that the having such is absolutely necessary, as well as reputable, in all Countries, especially those of any Extent, wherein People cannot subsist, nor any inland Trade be carried on, without Land Carriage: And therefore we assure you, that nothing in our Power shall be wanting to promote a Thing of such great Importance, and so manifestly conducive to the Prosperity of our Country, as what you so kindly and affectionately recommend is.

We are firmly persuaded of the Truth and Sincerity of your Profession, that nothing could give you more Pleasure than to see a general Spirit of Industry spread itself throughout the Province; and we and all Mankind, must be convinced, that were we to neglect, either in our legislative or private Capacities, any Thing in our Power to promote such a Spirit, it would be the most criminal Breach of our Duty, and a stupid Blindness to our own Interest, and that of our Posterity.

We have already derived great Advantages from our Inspection Law, notwithstanding the dishonest Artifices that have been used to defeat some of the good Ends proposed by it, by rendering it less beneficial to the Country than it might be; but as these Artifices are now pretty well known, we flatter ourselves, that with the Assistance and Concurrence of the other Branches of the Legislature, we shall be able to put such an effectual Stop to them, as will deter those who have been hitherto concerned, from offending in the like Manner for the future: And that when and as often as new Arts of Fraud shall be invented, new Laws will also be framed, to check and punish such Offenders as act in Opposition to the Interest of their Country; and the more effectually our Staple is guarded against Strangers, the better shall we be able to enter into the Consideration of, and to carry into Execution, such other Laws as may tend to advance the Trade and Prosperity of the Province.

We return you our unfeigned Thanks for the Assurances you have given us of your hearty Concurrence and best Assistance, in what shall be undertaken for the Public Good; and we think ourselves under all the Ties of Honour, Justice, and Gratitude,

to contribute every Thing in our Power to make your Administration as easy and agreeable to yourself, as we are sure you desire it should be advantageous to the Country.

B. T A S K E R, President.

To which his Excellency returned the following Answer.

Gentlemen of the Upper House of Assembly,  
I Return you my hearty Thanks for your kind Address, and the favourable Opinion you are pleased to express of my Administration: And shall always endeavour by my Actions to merit the Continuance of your Esteem.

S A M. O G L E.

The humble ADDRESS of the House of Delegates of the said Province.

May it please your Excellency,

WE his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the Freemen of Maryland, in Assembly convened, return your Excellency our sincere Thanks for your kind Speech at the Opening of this Session.

Altho' we should at all Times have been willing and ready to leave our Homes to attend our Duty, and communicate our Opinion and Advice, for the common Interest of our Constituents; yet it is with the greatest Sense of Gratitude we acknowledge your good Intentions, in saving the Province the Expence, and us the Trouble, of meeting at an inconvenient Season of the Year, where absolute Necessity did not require it.

The Concern your Excellency expresses, under the Apprehension of the Want of Corn, for the Support of the poorer Sort of People, claims our Acknowledgement. The guarding against a Calamity which must attend the Scarcity of Grain, together with the several Matters relating to *Indian Affairs*, by your Excellency laid before us, shall in the Course of this Session be taken under our most serious Consideration; and we shall, in both Cases, do what may be consistent with Prudence and Duty, as well as the Interest and Safety of those we represent.

We agree with your Excellency, that the Goodness of Roads and Conveyance by Water, to render Carriage easy, commodious, and cheap, must have great Influence on the Commerce of every Country; and as Nature has happily given this Province great Share of the latter, so we shall consider how the former may be further improved, consistent with the Convenience of the People.

The strong Assurances your Excellency hath given us, of your hearty Concurrence and Assistance in whatever we undertake for the Public Good, will encourage us with Cheerfulness, to set about the making such Laws as will necessarily promote it, by advancing the Trade, and consequently the Riches and Prosperity of the Province.

The Advantages we receive from the Inspection Law are visible, and fully sufficient to incite us to endeavour for such proper Amendments, as will bring it to Perfection; and, under a Continuance, enable us to become a prosperous and flourishing People.

The great Opinion we have of your Excellency's humane and benevolent Disposition, will not permit us to suppose you desire any Increase of Power, but to enable your Excellency to promote the Happiness of those under your Administration.

P H I L I P H A M M O N D, Speaker.

May 16, 1751.