

His Sacred Majesty Our Sovereign Lord the King of Great Britain  
 by Letters under the Great Seal of Great Britain bearing date the 27th day of  
 January 1678. doth hereby declare that the Honorable the Lord Proprietors and  
 Council of the Province of Maryland are for their own and the said Province  
 grounds upon our said Majesty's behalf to the said purpose.

Being informed by a Declaration of the Hon. Thomas Nolley Esq. late  
 Governor of the Province lately published for his Own and the Lord Proprietors  
 declaration that One Richard Coll Marrison (who as Master of a Ship traded here  
 last year) had at his return to London reported that by order of the Hon. Charles  
 Lord Baltimore Proprietor of the Province of Maryland his Officers here had imposed  
 an oath upon the people here by which they were required to swear fidelity to him the said  
 Lord Baltimore against all Princes whatsoever but more especially against the said  
 Majesty Our Sovereign Lord the King of England, Banishing all such who refused  
 the said oath, We thought it our Duty not to be silent, nor becoming men of  
 Common Sense to let our selves or our Government committed to our care by and for  
 your sake a scandal, Wherfore (having had the Administration of Justice in our  
 hands for divers years before his said Lord made the said Nolley his Lord's Advocate  
 here as well as Justice) We do Declare and Publish that never any such oath  
 was imposed or tendered to any person or persons whatsoever within the Province or  
 trading here since we have been here (which hath been for the space of twenty years  
 at least) and consequently never any man imprisoned or otherwise punished for refusing  
 to take the said oath, neither is any oath or other duty of that nature to be found upon  
 record in the Province. This being the truth of the case, and such as we hope may  
 satisfy the whole world that we are and ever have been true Loyalists to Our  
 Sovereign Lord the King. We have signed it with Our hands and humbly pray the  
 Lord that he will order his Letters Patent for this Province to publish this  
 Declaration unto the great Seal of the Province that full faith and credit  
 may be given to it in England.

Signed

- Philip Calvert
- William Calvert
- Baker Brooke
- Thomas Taylor
- Benj. Rorer for so long as I have  
 been in the Province which is twenty  
 years.

The following Order therein according to the order of Council yesterday directed to  
 James Smallwood of Charles County: viz  
 March 30<sup>th</sup> 1678. By the Lord Proprietors & Council

You are hereby willed and required upon sight hereof to go to the Passaway fort  
 and to acquaint the Emperor and his great men that the Lord Proprietors of this Council  
 being informed that there is an Indian lately come from the Sinniquos and now in the  
 Passaway fort have a desire to speak with him, and in order therunto will be at  
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