

A Council held at the Council Chamber on Friday the
23. day of May in the sixteenth year of his Lordships Dominion
Ann of Domini 1766.

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor.

The honourable Benjamin Tasker, Chas. Hammond, Sam^l. Chamberlaine, Rich^d. Lee, Donald Talbot,
Daniel Dulany, Jun^r, Ridout, Chas. Goldsborough and Henry Hooper Esq^r.

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Instructions, desiring their Opinion and
Advice thereon.

Frederick Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon in America and
Baron of Baltimore in the Kingdom of Ireland.

Orders and Instructions to be observed and pursued by Our Trusty and well beloved Horatio Sharpe
Esq^r Our Lieutenant General and Chief Governor of Our Province of Maryland.

J. Baltimore

Whereas, It appears to me from Perusal of the Journals and Proceedings of the Assem-
bly of Our said Province of Maryland, that Various Altercations and Controversys have arisen and sub-
sisted for some years past between Our Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, as well touching the Application
and Disposition of the Duties, Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures arising from Ordinary Licences and other
Licences granted within Our said Province, as touching the Ordering and Regulating of the same Licences and
the collection and Receipt of the Duties, Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures arising from the same, whereby Our
Antient and Undoubted Rights and 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 divert us of Our said
Revenue, and to appropriate the same at the Arbitrament and Appointment of one House, contrary to Our Digni-
ty and equally Injurious to Our Public and Private Rights, to the great Interruption of the Business of Our
said Assembly, and to the heavy Burthen and 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 Charters, Rights, and the Antient Ex-
ercise and usage of the same by Our Noble Ancestors. I do therefore hereby strictly Enjoin and require you, that
you do not upon any Account signify your Assent to any Bill whatsoever, to be sent up to you from both or either
of the Houses of Assembly of our said Province whereby Our Sole Right and Privilege of granting Ordinary
Licences, or any other Licences whatsoever within our said Province to such Persons and in such manner as we
shall think fitting, shall or may be in anywise invaded, Impaired, or otherwise drawn into Question, or wher-
by any Appropriation, Appointment or Disposition shall or may be made by both Houses or either House
of Assembly within our said Province, of the Duties, fines, penalties, and Forfeitures arising or to arise from such
Ordinary Licences or other Licences whatsoever, at any time heretofore granted, or hereafter to be granted with-
in our said Province otherwise than to our proper use and benefit or to other such uses Intents and Pur-
poses to which I shall have signified to you or our said Assembly my Previous Assent and Pleasure, or wher-
by any new Regulations, Modes of Collection, or other Innovations shall or may be established or Introduced
touching the same Licences or any of them, or touching all or any of the Duties, Fines, Penalties or Forfeitures