

Patronage from our address is very surprising, and can only be owing to your late arrival in the Province and some neglect of due information. Within a few of the last Years three formal appointments were set aside in one Parish only by the violence of the People which we are led at least to attribute in part to the Spirit of Sectaries, as it happened in that quarter of the Country where they chiefly abound - nor have there been wanting persons who have asserted the Right of Patronage itself to lie in the People from whom the revenue proceeds - and if farther Confirmation were necessary some written Authorities could be produced that would put the fact beyond a doubt -

As we receive with all Gratitude your Excellency's declarations that you will countenance the worthy ministers of the established church and support the just rights of the Clergy of Maryland, so we cannot but applaud your resolutions to protect all quiet and peaceable Subjects of every Denomination in the just enjoyment of their rights. The Clergy of Maryland will be the last to persuade your Excellency to depart from a determination to be truly Christian; and whilst they continue to hold persecution in just abhorrence, and see without a murmur the dissenting congregations enjoying their full rights under their several forms of religious discipline, they reasonably hope that at least as full an enjoyment of its rights may be extended to the national Church, as to those who dissent from it. —

To His Excellency  
the Governor

We are for ourselves and Brethren, Sir,  
Your Excellency's most obed<sup>t</sup> and most hble Servants

H. Addison

B. Allen

J. Boucher

Rev. Sir

Annapolis Sept. 16. 1770.

Agreeable to an appointment made at our last Meeting in May, the following Gentlemen met. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Addison, McGill, Hamilton, Hughes, Kemp, Rose, Neill, Boucher, Scott, Barclay Allen - they left the Subscribers as a Committee to act in their behalf together with any other of the Clergy that chuse to attend, and we expect more to morrow. —

We waited on the Governor to know whether the Charter to establish the Widow Fund was arrived - we were answered in the Negative, but that it was daily expected. —

We took into consideration an Application for an American Episcopate, It was determined one should be made, and respective addresses were drawn up for that purpose to the King, Arch Bishop of Canterbury Bishop of London Lord Baltimore, and the Governor and one is intended to be made to the General Assembly. —

Ponder of acting in the name of the whole Clergy without a manifest Majority we have sent to every individual for their Opinion upon the Question desiring their Consent may be communicated to us by Signing the inclosed paper which we do not admit the least doubt of upon the principles of the Church to which we belong. But should any Clergyman dissent and will favour us with his Reasons for so doing, all possible attention shall be paid them and every reasonable objection endeavoured to be obviated.

P.S. The difficulty of transcribing so many papers is the sole reason you have no copies. They remain however in Annapolis for your Inspection - You will please to favor us with your Answer by the Bearer directed to the Rev. M. Boucher in Annapolis —

To the Rev. M<sup>rs</sup>

We remain your faithful Brethren

H. Addison

B. Allen

J. Boucher

in the name and behalf  
of our absent Brethren