

Copy of the <sup>the</sup> Lett<sup>r</sup> to Mr Calvert Dated the 2<sup>d</sup> of May. 1756 203.  
transmitted by Capt. M'Gushen.

S<sup>r</sup> I am now to inform You that the Assembly is at length broke up after having sat almost twice as long as ever an Assembly has been known or heard to have done before. You will see a List of the Laws that were enacted on the Day of Session in the inclosed Gazette, to which I also beg leave to refer You for my proroguing Speech. The Journal of Accounts has been agreed to by both Houses & a Levy Bill is passed to pay off all the publick Debts, so that None of Contention at least no longer exists & thereby the Difficulty of finding ways & means to raise Money hereafter for His Majesty's Service is I hope removed as a Poll Tax will be obvious for that Purpose. As soon as the Laws can be printed I shall take Care to send them with Remarks as usual tho none of them are of very great importance or of an extraordinary Nature except the Supply Bill which I will get transcribed time enough to transmit it hither. In my Letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst I informed You that the Two Houses had agreed on a Conference & that I apprehended there were too many Exceptionable Clauses in the Bill to be ever got over, however after a warm Engagement between the Conferers which lasted more than a week the Lower House amended the Parts that had been principally objected to & left no very Exceptionable Clauses unless it be that which subjects His Majesty's Mannours & other demised Lands to the Payment of the Land Tax which as You will see is made one of the Funds for sinking the Money & unless that Clause also be thought to deserve such an Epithet which makes the Lands of Roman Catholics liable to the Payment of a double Tax as is done by the Statutes of England. A Day or two before the Bill was sent to the Upper House there was a Petition left for me at the Council Chamber subscribed by some of the principal Roman Catholics in the Country desiring me to dissent to the Bill which they said lay before me because it imposed a double Tax on the Lands of all Persons of their