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and most inconvenient it was that last by the advice of his Council found
himself Obliged to return to the first and most convenient Place of Saint Marys

8 And for the encouragement of the Inhabitants of the same and the better
to enable them to make provision for the Accommodation of such persons as
should have occasion to apply themselves their incomes of Assembly Provincial
Courts or otherwise his Lordship was pleased to signify to the Corporation
under his hand his promise and full assurance of continuing the same and
not to be removed thence during his life

9 Upon which encouragement given several of the Inhabitants of the said City
have lanch'd out and dispos'd considerable Estates to their great Improvement
and utmost utterance if they should be defected of such their promised encourage-
ment and not only so but divers others the Inhabitants for several miles about
Contiguous and adjacent to the said County upon the same Encouragement
of his Lordship have scited themselves upon many indifferent lands and
laid out their Estates and made Improvements thereon chiefly for the raising of
Sticks wherewith to supply the said City for the end and purpose aforesaid
which is now become their whole and only dependance for their future support &
maintainance

10 The City of S^t Marys situated as aforesaid is undeniably the most conve-
nient port or place for all Masters of Ships or other persons whatsoever at their
Arrivall into or going out of the Province to make their application to his Excellency
and also for the receipt and dispatch of all publick letters and expresses relating
to their Majestys Service and the good of the whole Province from and to any
parts of the same as lying in a manner equally distant from Patuxent and
Potomack Rivers and the main Bay and is most Commodious and Contiguous
to its Neighbouring Colony of Virginia with whom a mutual intercourse and
Correspondency is most undeniably necessary and material

11 For which reasons amongst others best known to their Majestys your Supple-
cants humbly conceive that (as they have been inform'd) their Majestys late Governour
Copley was by his Instructions commanded to apply primarily and principally
to Saint Marys and there enter upon his Government as the known and generally
Accepted antient and chief seat of Government in this Province

12 It hath hardly been known and indeed scarce any precedent can be produced
of so sudden a change as the removal of the antient and chief seat of Government
upon the bare suggestion and allegations of some particular persons for their own
private Interest and Advantage neither is it in the power we humbly conceive
of the Subject but the prerogative Royal invested in your Excellency as their Maj-
tynant at whose feet we humbly cast ourselves for relief and redress against
the Calamities and ruin wherewith we are threaten'd and wholly rely upon
your Excellencies Grace and favour therein with whom we also conceive should