

Bill for making valid a L^{ie} of Attorney from William Josephs, Esq to William Josephs his Son Read the first and second Times and by several Order do pass
The Hon^{ble} Thomas Smith, John Hammond, Francis Johnson, William Courney and Thomas Emmells Esq from the Council orders the House and deliver Mr Speaker the following Libel and Message therewith viz^t

My Friends I have thought fit to advise you to take Care in Time to defend you selves from that wicked Conjurance of Darnall and the Popish Priests in their agreeing with the French & the other Heathens to destroy you all, The Proceedings of Maryland are easily brought ~~over~~ to us over Catowmach River Can any People think that the Queen sent a Governor amongst you to be ruled by Darnall or any other Papist. We hear that an Act of Assembly was made against the Popish Priests to blind the People; but how long was it before they had Liberty, and the Protestant Ministers silenced. I have a Care of a Popish Plot lest you have Cause to repent when it's too late. This from a Friend is all present.

To the Protestants of Maryland -

By his Excellency the Governor and Council in Assembly Die Veneris 18th Maij 1705
The above is a Copy of a scandalous & seditious Libel published in St. Mary's County to the great Dissatisfaction of her Majesty's Loyal good Subjects but more especially with a malicious Intent to render the Administration of the Government here odious and suspected. You cannot but remember that what was done in Order to checking or restraining the Extravagance of the Popish Priests came first from your House, and had the ready Assent of his Excellency and this Board so likewise what was done the last Session in suspending the Execution thereof for 18 Months was first moved in your House and represented by you as reasonable to this Board wherefore we doubt not your Candour in publicly resorting to base and unjust an Abuse & Calumny of his Excellency & this Board as by the said Libel is offered against them.

Signed P^r Order W^m Bladen S^r Council

Which being read the House refers it to further Consideration.

Proposed whether it be not absolutely necessary to advance ~~an~~ additional Duty of six Pence p^r Acre to help defray the Charge of building the Provincial Court House being a former Vote reasumed.

Put to the Vote whether a Bill shall be brought in for that Purpose or not.

Carried by Majority of Votes that a Bill be brought in for that Purpose.

The Bill to confirm William Josephs L^{ie} of Attorney to his Son, sent up by Mr Thomas Smith and Mr William Stone to the Council for their concurrence.

They return and say they delivered their Bill.

The Hon^{ble} James Launsdown Esq from the Council orders the House and deliver Mr Speaker the following Message viz^t

(By)