

PERSON of your Governour, what must the people -  
have expected from men of such virulent and Implacable -  
Spirits, could they again their Ends, on those they esteem heretics  
how Surprising will this Appear if Properly  
Represented, that such things were acted under the  
Auspicious Reign of his Sacred Maj<sup>ty</sup> King George, the  
Guardian and Defender of the faith - and in the Govern-  
ment of a Lord Proprietor who has so Often profess himself  
of the Protestant Religion under the Tuition of his  
noble Guardian always of that persuasion.

How happy  
might those of the Romish Communion be in Maryland had  
they accepted the terms offered by me in a publick Declaration -  
which are so Easy, as even their duty requires Viz<sup>t</sup> that  
they should not Interfere with the Affairs of Governm<sup>t</sup> -  
which did not appertain to them, and not to pervert the  
Protestants from their faith, and by consequence from their  
allegiance as is the Constant Practice of the numerous  
Jesuits here, would to good the poor protestants in Foreign  
parts now indeed under Persecution on the score of Religion  
might be indulgd with the same Lenity the Romanists enjoy  
here -

The papists having Insinuated in great Britain  
that they were persecuted in this Province in order to  
obviate that Calumny, I was obligd at the Opening of  
the Last Sessions of Assembly to make them a publick  
Challenge (which I now again repeat) to give one Instance  
wherein any of their Community, were persecuted or even  
prosecuted by Law for Conscience sake - The only  
reply made on their part, was by a Gentleman who  
Informed me some of the Principles of the Roman  
Catholics had shewd him a paper that was intended  
to be presented me by them in which he said they seem'd to  
Acknowledge they had not been Persecuted; but at the same  
time it contain'd Some things which Looked like a Claim  
of right, at the mention of this I Express'd my Dislike  
to their Claim; & Doubt not my so doing, and the hopes  
they had of my sudden removal from my Station, were  
the reasons that paper was never Offer'd me.  
Gentlemen / The presence of the papists that