

with it a due Apology for very few of the Tobacco Planters can Conspicuously Comply  
with the Oaths prescribed in the late Act for Meliorating Tob: w<sup>ch</sup> puts such  
a stop to trade as neither planter or Merchant is the better by that Law; for if the  
people will not fight their Tob: the consequence to them and the Merch<sup>t</sup> is too  
Evident to need a Comment if they ship without complying with the Law it may create  
greater Troubles to the Courts and Charge to the people than indeed ought to be with-  
out as it is allowed that a Melioration of Quality is and still continues necessary  
w<sup>ch</sup> is the Chief Design of that Act I Doubt not but you'd readily agree that there  
is a necessity for an Explanation or Amendment to the Law for my part there is  
Nothing that is proper for you to Ask and me to Grant but I shall heartily Concur  
in for the good of Maryland - Inasmuch as through the Indispensable Necessity  
of the above Occasion you are met; I thought it my Duty to acquaint you that  
Our most gracious Sovereign in a late speech to the British Parliament has taken the  
Love State of our Trade, into his princely Consideration and for our relief, recommended  
the making of Warehouse Stores in the parts. Such Instances of his paternal & Royal  
Care of us, must certainly more & more induce him to all his good Subjects; and to  
show our Gratitude to the best of Things, the least we can do is to conform (what we  
can) with his royal Inclination by Encouraging the Home Trade; w<sup>ch</sup> our own  
Interest and the Soil of the Province in many places, invites us to some Advancement  
made last Session in relation to Hemp to pay Debts Contracted in that Commodity  
at Six pence of pound; which if it be above the Curr: price of the Market in England  
will unavoidably raise a Carnage in the Merch<sup>t</sup> at home, as a good foundation to  
Support a good Undertaking, Therefore I recommend to your serious Consideration  
whether it would be thought convenient to appoint proper persons in each County  
to receive all the Merch<sup>t</sup> Hemp that shall be brought in yearly at a price  
agreeable to the Market in England, and a reward to those that bring in  
Large Quantities, this may Encourage Industry and get people to look on a  
Manufacture, that is not likely to be precarious

Gent I can't help taking notice of a report spread, that I Design to turn several  
Out of Com: w<sup>ch</sup> is Intirely false and only raised to create a Mis Understanding between  
me and the good people of Maryland to whom I shall always think my self  
Obliged by the favours I have received from them, and particularly this present  
Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly, and in return will sincerely study the prosperity of the Province  
w<sup>ch</sup> out any private views of my own and shall show the greatest resentment  
to the Authors of any reflection on the Gentlemen in Commission finding fault  
in their Conduct, but what is agreeable with their Duty to the King the  
Prov<sup>t</sup> and the Country. As in our Legislature (as near as Circumstances will admit)  
we endeavour by forming two Estates to assimilate, that of our Mother Great  
Britain making her our pattern for Justice, in Order to which in reference to  
Mr Bodley, I must let you know that my Discharging him from giving me  
further Council (he having given me Council of Permissions Consequenced  
is not Designed to affect him as a Member of your House if (as such) he has  
a right to sit there in w<sup>ch</sup> point I desire you'd Inquire into and In form me of