

for the support and defense of the Government in his Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> of October 1716 but had the Confidence therein to Caution me w<sup>ch</sup> passing some Laws the Assembly then sitting had prepared for my ascent - I shall only mention one Law I did not withstanding his Insolent advice then pass w<sup>ch</sup>:-

An Act for the better Security of his Lordships Government and the Protestant Interest within this Province.

The first publick Occasion this Person executed his Commission was to discharge two Criminals out of Prison (one of them his (Nephew) who had been informed against for firing the great guns on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June but Convict of more heinous Crimes against his Majesty, and this he did contrary to the Judgment of the Court of Oyer and Terminer held on that Occasion, which obliged me to Remand them to Prison until the Juries adjudgments were complied with, and immediately sent for Mr. Canoll and tendered him the Oaths which he refused to take, for which Reason Required him to act on his Com<sup>rs</sup> that part only which related to his Lordships private Estate for that it was publick affair, and more than unreasonable, that a Profest Papist should set Criminals at Large, who were Convict of so great Crimes against our Sovereign, by only giving a Fine to the Sheriff that the Lord Justices was satisfied as to the fines imposed.

Several Commissions were brought in by Mr. Canoll, some filled up to Papists and others in blank and on my refusing to admit the Surveyors Generalls of the Eastern and Western Shore, without first taking the Oaths appointed by Act of Assembly - I was not only menaced for having thereby shut up his Lordships Land office but even Insulted on my sick bed at a late hour of the night when in a dangerous State, I was making my will as some Honble Gents Can testify, whom I desired to be witnesses on the Occasion.

On my application to their Lordships to be removed from this Station, rendered unsafe and dishonourable while those Com<sup>rs</sup> held Force - Their Lordships in due time, with drew those Commissions, and placed them in the hands of Protestants and required me to remain in my Station - Acknowledging they were surprized into their former grants to papists.

Mr. Canoll was examined by me in Council concerning his imposing on their Lordships (then unexperienced in the Affairs of Maryland) by obtaining such a Commission containing more unlawful powers than are yet mentioned) who was so far from acknowledging his faults of so heip a nature that, with a Haughty air he insisted the Roman Catholics had a right to hold offices, and if that right should be denied them, they would

Pursuant to this Declaration the papists, as I am well