

that great Example: We concur with you in the Choice of your precedents, and if your Studies and the particular Care you mention, had not their due Success, we heartily wish they had: If you had always spoke after the manner of the *British Parliament* in all your Debates with us, throughout this whole Assembly, then we hope, should we speak like you, it would be allowed by you to be speaking after the manner of the *British Parliament*. But, we hope, your Honours intended no Offence to that great Body, nor do we intend to offer any to your House, and if we are wanting in good Manners, we promise to learn, when the Business of our Country will allow us more Leisure.

Indeed, we apprehend your Honours were in haste (tho' from the 28th of *October* till the 2d Instant) in answering our Message by Col. *M.* and --- others; for we cannot find you have answered it, as if you had given it a deliberate reading. We say in that Message, *For your Honours to wait for his Lordship's Advice, instead of giving your Advice to his Lordship, seems to invert the order and end of your Office of Councillors*: You are pleased to say in your last Message, *That your not giving into our Measures concerning the Oath, has drawn that Calumny on you.* We say, we esteem it no ways necessary for faithful Councillors to know what will please their Prince before they give him their Advice, &c. which, tho' we spoke generally of such as Studied rather to please than to serve, you are pleased to lay Claim to, as part of your Character, and call it a *Calumny thrown on you by us.* And we find, because we give you our opinion, what good Consequence your communicating to his Lordship your sense of our Resolves might have been, you take that as a *Calumny*, and a Charge of Neglect for not advising his Lordship on the late Address. We hope in all this, there is not the least appearance of *Calumny*; but if your Honours are pleased to call our reasoning with you by such names as you are displeas'd at, we must leave you to your Liberty, who best know how to describe your selves and Actions.

We did not Charge your Honours with having had the Address; for it was not directed to you; we only supposed you to be acquainted with it, which though you were not judicially, as a House, yet the most of you were in a private way, and every Member might have been, for it was entered at the end of the Journal of this House, which was returned to the Secretary, to be Copied and sent to *England*, and now remains a publick Record. But as our Message only mentioned, that if when your Honours were acquainted with the Address, you had then apprized his Lordship, &c. We desire you to consider how Impossibilities are thereby made part of your Duty, or what Instances you have of our forgetting our selves, or of any Precipitency or Sanguinity, in the pursuit of what you say, we never once considered; for we only supposed it might have been of Use to his Lordship for you to have apprized him, when, and not before, you were acquainted with the Address.

We heartily wish we were as good Masters of Policy, and Prudence of Government as you think your selves to be; we should not then have called that part of the Oath an *Innovation*, that was Enacted in the Reign of *Edward* the third, nor have waited long for the opinion of the best Lawyers in *England*, concerning what was most agreeable to the Constitution and publick Weal of *Maryland*, as you propos'd in your former, tho' you deviate in the present Message in this particular, as well as forgetting that your Objections to the Oath, was in points that you do not now mention. And since the Oath you now propos'd, is exactly the same Words that Mr. Attorney General propos'd,