

norable Board. And we are not forgetful of the Advances this House then made for the Dispatch of the Publick Business, by repeated Messages sent by their Honorable Members. We are now again willing and desirous to pass by the unparallel'd Treatment of this House in the Person of their Honorable Speaker, as also the manner of the then Prorogation, and that at a Time when the Representative Body of the People were in the Execution of their Duty, doing Justice to their Constituents, and Honor to the Government, by endeavouring to bring to Light Offences and Offenders against both. We are very willing to put the mildest Construction on these Proceedings, as also the subsequent Dissolution of that Assembly, to the great Charge and Trouble of his Majesty's Liege Subjects the good People of *Maryland*. We cannot pass by in Silence a Circumstance attending that Time, tho' trifling and minute in itself, by the Person, who altho' then under the Censure of the Delegates of the Freemen of *Maryland*, for having grossly Reflected on that Body in General, and some in Particular, yet immediately thereupon put into a Place of Profit and Trust in one of the Courts of Record. We humbly Hope there is some Honour and Regard due to the Body of the People his Majesty's Liege Subjects, and we are sorry to see Merit made of that which ought to Debase, and those mostly Caress'd who are most Active in the Maltreatment and Oppression of the good People of this Province.

We are now, as heretofore we were, fully convinced that Heats and Animosities are an ill Foundation for the Pursuit of the Public Good; wherefore we then did, as we now shall, endeavour what lies in our Power, to avoid giving Rise to such, and we humbly Hope that no artful or colourable Pretences will be made use of to Impede the Publick Business. On our Part we do with Truth and unfeigned Sincerity assure your Excellency, that we are come with a hearty Desire and firm Resolution to do every thing in our Power to promote the general Good and Welfare of the Province of *Maryland*, than which we have nothing more near at Heart.

Your Excellency is pleas'd to Declare, as you often have, your good Intentions for the Welfare of this Province and People, and we are truly sorry that your kind Resolutions, so often published, should hitherto be Frustrated and rendered Void, by the Malevolent Influence of evil Councils; such may gain to themselves private Advantage, while the Publick are sacrificed to their Avarice and Ambition, and his Majesty's Poor, Loyal and Dutiful Subjects entirely Destitute of Means to Redress