

There are grounds to suspect that we have been represented to your Lordship as a factious clamorous People, disaffected to his Majesty, and ill disposed towards your Lordship, since there are those amongst us who have not been wanting to lay those Things to our Charge: But when your Lordship considers that such Representations come from the Authors of many of those Evils whereof we complain, we hope they will have but little weight with you. We have, it is hoped, very lately given sufficient Testimony, according to our Abilities, of our sincere Attachment to his Majesty's Person and Government; and we can with the greatest Truth assure your Lordship, that we never had it in our Thoughts to abridge you in any of your Rights and Prerogatives, and are at all Times willing to give such a Support to your Government as is suitable to our Circumstances; but we know ourselves to be a Branch of that Free People of whom your Lordship is a Representative, entitled to all their Rights and Privileges, and therefore we can never submit to the Payment of any Tax or Impost but what is laid upon us by Law.

It is with the greatest Pleasure we receive Mr. *Bladen* as our Governor, and as we have full Hopes, that by his mild and just Administration the true Interest of the Province will be pursued, so we promise on our Parts to do every thing in our Power to make his Government easy, and to promote and support your Lordship's just Rights.

To the Right Honourable CHARLES, *Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon, Lord Baron of Baltimore, &c.*
The humble ADDRESS of the DELEGATES of the FREEMEN of the Province of *Maryland*, in General Assembly convened.

May it please your Lordship,

WE his Majesty's faithful and dutiful Liege Subjects, the Delegates of the Freemen of *Maryland*, being desirous to promote your Lordship's Interest, as well as the Ease of your Tenants, and the Improvement of this Part of his Majesty's Dominions: Therefore we humbly propose to your Lordship, that in lieu of your Lordship's Quit-Rents, arising due within this Province, to pay you in Sterling Money, at *London*, in *Great-Britain*, an Equivalent, in such Manner and Form as may best suit your Lordship, and conduce to the Ease and Welfare of the People we represent, and as shall hereafter be concluded upon.

We are well apprised of the great Expence to your Lordship, in the present Method of the Collection of your Rents; as no doubt your Lordship is, of the great Difficulty the remote and back Inhabitants are, and will be under, of raising Sterling Money for the Payment thereof; and likewise the Necessity of peopling those Parts (tho' remote) of his Majesty's Dominions, as well for making a good Barrier against the growing Power of the *French*, as to promote the Trade and Manufacture of *Great-Britain*.

Your Lordship's kind Professions for the general Welfare of *Maryland*, incline us to do all in our Power to bring about that good Harmony, which has heretofore subsisted between your noble Ancestors and the good People of this Province.

Should your Lordship incline to come into this Proposal, we humbly request proper Directions may be given to your Governor for the Purpose aforesaid, which we hope may contribute towards accomplishing that good Agreement between your Lordship and your Tenants, so much desired.

The House adjourns until the Morrow-Morning at 9 of the Clock.