

him, and desires to know when, and where, he will please to receive it: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, that his Excellency was pleased to signify, he was ready to receive the Address immediately in the Conference Chamber.

*Ordered.* That Mr. Lloyd, with Five more, do present the Address.

Dr. Carroll, from the Committee of Laws, brings in, and delivers to Mr. Speaker, a Bill entituled, *An Act to prevent any Person or Persons within this Province, from exporting Provisions of any Kind, Ammunition or War-like Stores, for the Time therein mentioned*; which was read the first and second Time, by an especial Order, and will pass, and was sent to the Upper House, by Mr. J. J. Mackall and Mr. Gray.

Philip Hammond, Esq; from the Upper House, brings in, and delivers to Mr. Speaker, an Address to his Excellency, which was read, approved, and ordered to be ingrossed.

His Excellency the Governor communicates to Mr. Speaker the following Message, *viz.*

*Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,*

I AM very glad to find by your Address, presented me last Friday, that you are well satisfied and convinced of my Principles, Loyalty, and firm Attachment to the present happy Constitution, in Church and State, and at the Confidence you express yourselves to have in my Inclination and Desire to protect and countenance his Majesty's faithful Protestant Subjects in this Province: For doing me Justice in entertaining such Sentiments, I return you Thanks, and at the same Time assure you, I shall embrace every Occasion of confirming you in that Opinion. But lest a Stranger should be led to put a different Construction on some Words in that Address, from what you meant or desire, I shall also endeavour to explain and set in their true and proper Light those Parts which seem most likely to deceive or impose on indifferent Persons, who may have the Curiosity to peruse it.

As you cannot allude to myself, where you speak of frequent Addresses heretofore on this Subject, and as the general Assertions or Insinuations with which the present begins, seem to be founded or dependent on the particular Facts afterwards specified, I shall pass that Part unnoticed, to observe a little upon those remarkable and notorious Incidents and Instances.-----The Criminal who was condemned in *St. Mary's* County, and now enjoys the Benefit of a Reprieve, was, you say, recommended to me as a proper Object of Clemency, upon the Merit of becoming a Profelyte to the Popish Religion: Of what Church that unhappy Wretch now declares himself, or that he heretofore entertained different Sentiments with Regard to Religion, your Address has given me the first Information; but as the Gentlemen, who recommended him to me as a proper Object of Mercy, are well known to be good Protestants, and have shewn, on all Occasions, the firmest Attachment and Loyalty to his Majesty, as you yourselves can Witness for Two of them, who were some Years thought worthy to be Members of your House, I am willing to hope their Recommendation was owing to a different Motive from that which you have assigned; though as you speak pretty positively with Respect to that Matter, I presume you want not some extraordinary Evidence or Testimony, which I hope will not be kept secret, that I may be better enabled to enquire into the Affair, and that the Gentlemen reflected on may have an Opportunity, should it happen to be false, of vindicating themselves, by disproving it.

The two other Instances of Partiality, as you are pleased to speak, shewed to Popish Delinquents in *Prince George's* County, are, I am told (for till now I was unacquainted within the Pale of what Church they were numbered, my pardoning one *Pye*, a Youth, and the Wife of one *Bevan*, each of them on the Application, and at the earnest Request of many Protestant Gentlemen of their Neighbourhood, among whom were the Parties who had been injured.-----I remember that many favourable Circumstances were urged in Behalf of the first, and that one Inducement to me to yield to his Friends Sollicitation, was,

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