

Captain *Curtis*, another Commissioner now in *England*, and all *Maryland* can testify how unwilling, and how tenderly they did any thing there, and how much they desired and endeavoured to have declined any alteration, if either Captain *Stone* the Governour or the Council, would ~~have~~^{have} issued out Writs in the name of the *Keepers of the Liberty of England*, and have promised to govern according to the *Laws of England*; both which they refused under their hands: and the Commissioners being sent to *Maryland*, is since owned by the Report of the Committee of the Council of State, and the Lord *Baltimore* taxed and blamed for not issuing out Writs as they required them; and therefore seems a bold aspersion for the Lord *Baltimore* to publish, that *Maryland* being struck out of their commission, was afterwards by some mistake put into the Commission the second time: and as strange it seems, that now since the reduction of *Maryland* the Lord *Baltimore* in opposition and contempt of the Supreme Authority of *England*, should cause his Governor and Council most falsely and rebelliously to revolt and recede from the same, and give instructions under his own hand, as he had lately done, to issue out all Writs and Proceedings in his own name onely: which they have accordingly done, and not the least mention of the Lord Protector's name in all their Government. This the said Commissioners, though they received confirmation of their Commission from the Parliament under the Seal, (the Original the first time miscarrying) yet bore with a long time onely by Letters out of *Virginia*, admonished Captain *Stone* and that Council of their error, and protested against their actions: but they continued obstinate. The Commissioners were desirous still to expect and attend a settlement and determination out of *England*, and to intermeddle as little as they could. But about a year since Lord *Baltimore* sends over Instructions and Commands to Captain *Stone* and his new made Council, all or most Papists, or indifferent, to seize the Lands and Estates of all such as would not take the Oath of fidelity (as he styles it) before specified. But the people of *Maryland* generally abhorred this Oath and justly as is conceived, especially those of *Patuxent* and *Severn* declined to take it, as being against their Engagement, incompatible