

said *Captain Stone*, and *Mr. Hutton*, though they continued, and exercised the Government for some time, and for divers Courts, in the Name of the Keepers of the Liberty of *England*, yet have they since, upon no good ground, falsified their said trust and engagement, though acted publickly, and after long Advice and Consideration: And having rejected, and cast off their said Obedience to the Common-wealth of *England*, have further refused to Govern this Province according to the Laws of *England*, but declare and assume a power and practise contrary thereunto, and contrary to the late Platform of Government of the Common-wealth of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, and the Dominions thereof; As namely, by the Governors Negative Voice in Assemblies, and his chusing and removing Counsellors at pleasure, and the like, is manifest. And whereas we have lately received Commands from his Highness the *Lord Protector*, to publish the said Platform of Government; and that all Writs and Proceedings should be issued in the Name of his Highness; to which, though we desire this Government should be conformable, yet the said *Captain Stone*, and *Mr. Hutton*, having lately Associated unto them divers Counsellors, all of the Romish Religion, and excluding others appointed by the Parliaments Commissioners, have, and do refuse to be obedient to the Constitutions thereof, and to the *Lord Protector* therein; And have in the name, and by special direction of the said *Lord Baltimore*, made Proclamation, and exacted an Oath of Fidelity from all the Inhabitants of the Province, contrary, and inconsistent to the said Platform of Government; which said Oath nevertheless, and the Law here commanding the same, and many other Laws, are likewise by the Report of the said Committee of the Council of State, declared to be contrary to the Laws and Statutes of the English Nation; which is an expresse breach of his Patent. And whereas the said Oath, in many particulars, is distastful by all the Inhabitants of *Maryland*; and especially out of tenderness of Conscience by all Northern Plantations of *Patuxent* and *Severne*, who having lately engaged to the Parliament of *England*, do say, and declare, they cannot take the said Oath to the