

whether, They are to be governed by the Discretion, (as some People loftly term the *Caprice*, and *Arbitrary Pleasure*,) of any Set of Men?

THIS, or the like Enquiry, cannot be of any great Moment; but to those that are FREE: For, such as have the Misfortune to be in a State of Bondage, are in the Condition of *The Ass in the Fable*; sure to be as heavily laden as they can possibly bear, without rendring them useles to their Masters.

BUT the *People of Maryland* are *Freemen*, and will certainly continue to be such, as long as they enjoy the Benefit of Laws, calculated for the Security of *Liberty*, and *Property*, and *the Rights of Mankind*: But should They be so *infatuated* as to give up, or so *miserable* as to forfeit, (which God forbid!) the Benefit of such Laws; They may then, bid adieu to all the Security They have, of enjoying with any Degree of Certainty, any thing, however dear, and valuable.

THESE Considerations put Me upon enquiring, in the best Manner, my very weak Capacity, and other Disadvantages, would admit of, into the *Right*, which the *People of Maryland* have, to the Enjoyment of *English Liberties*; and the *Benefit of the English Laws*: Which I take to be, and hope to prove are, convertible Terms. In which Enquiry, I have found very good Reasons, (at least, They seem so to Me,) to convince Me, that the said *People* have such *Right*.

TO the End, therefore, that I may be undeceived, if I am mistaken; or That I may confirm others, in the Truth, and Reasonableness of what I contend for; as well as the mighty Advantage it is of, to the Inhabitants of this Province, I will endeavour to prove the Right.