

their Honours really in earnest, when they profess so ardent a Zeal for His Majesty's Person and Government? They cannot give a better Test of their Loyalty, than by shewing their Inclination, and exerting their Endeavours to place the Province under the auspicious Influence of His Majesty's immediate Jurisdiction. Let me be permitted then to indulge the pleasing Hope, that the next Meeting of Assembly will produce a joint Application, from the Upper and Lower Houses, to the *British* Parliament, praying that they will be pleased to place His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects of *Maryland* under His immediate Protection and Government. But if Matters are not yet ripe for this grand *Æra* of *Maryland's* Happiness, what Step can be taken to alleviate the heavy Load of Misery she at present labours under? So great are our public Divisions, that in Matters of the most pressing Exigency, in Circumstances involving our most important Interests, when our Duty to the best of Kings, and the most sacred Cause of religious and civil Liberty have, with one Voice, called upon us to exert the Force of the Province, *Maryland* alone has been like the *deaf Adder, who refuseth to hear the Voice of the Charmer, charm he never so wisely.* And when all these animating Cries have been hitherto drowned, by the hoarse rough Voice of Party, with what Reason can we flatter ourselves, that the several Branches of our Legislature will ever concur in any Measures conducive to the Happiness and Prosperity of the Province? Our Situation is truly deplorable, and he who expects any

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