

are the most unlikely Persons in the World to give them a fair and impartial State of our Disputes. I am so well acquainted with the Principles of the Gentlemen whom their Honours have selected for the peculiar Marks of their groundless Accusations, and with their sincere and hearty Attachment to His Majesty's Person and Government, that I can venture to declare it to be their warmest Wish, that his Province were immediately under the Protection and Authority of the Crown, as the greatest Incident of public Happiness which could possibly befall the Country.—This is the general Wish of the People, and the only effectual Cure which can rationally be expected for our Divisions and Animositities, now inflamed to too great a Degree to be healed by any other Expedient; and though these Gentlemen have been so unfortunate as to disagree with their Honours upon many Subjects, yet there is one Point, in which I am persuaded they will most readily concur with them, the first Time they appear in a Legislative Capacity, and that is, in an humble Application to the British Parliament, praying that they will be pleased, (after making a suitable Compensation to the Proprietor) to place the Province of Maryland immediately under the Protection and Government of His Majesty, as was done by a former Parliament, in the Case of Carolina. Are their Honours the Guardians and Protectors of the Peoples Rights? They cannot give a better Pledge of their Sincerity, than in endeavouring to put these Rights under the immediate Protection of His Majesty.—Are their Honours jealous of any Invasion of His Majesty's Prerogatives, from the ambitious Incroachments of the Peoples Representatives? His Majesty's Prerogatives will be effectually secured in the Affections of His People, and by the Authority and Dignity of His Government.—Are 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.

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