

The two preceeding Messages sent to the Lower house p. U. H. Journal
Coll Coursey— 1659-98

Coll William Stevens & Coll William Digges Enter the house

Coll Digges p. Order from his Lordship produces the Address of the Lower house to his Lordship Touching the Bill for Electing and Summoning Delegates &' together with his Lordships Answer thereunto in the following Letter Viz'—

Gentlemen

Tis with very great trouble that at any time I am Compelled to Deny a request made by the Delegates and Deputies of this Province, and I am the more at this time, in regard that my not Answering your desires in your Late Address I shall run some hazard (as by the same you seem to hint) of having my Good Intentions towards the Freemen of Maryland called in Question by you, however I must resolve to return you this Answer, that I think your late request is of that Nature, that it will as well be inconvenient for the Freemen to accept, as it may be dangerous for me to Grant: What Priviledges and Powers I have by my Charter are from the King, and that of Calling of Assemblies in such manner and way as I shall think fitt being an undeniable one amongst the rest, I cannot Deem it Honourable Nor safe to Lodge it in the Freemen as you have desired, for it would be as reasonable for me to give away my Power of Calling and Dissolving of Assemblies, as to give that of Choosing the Number of Delegates, and such Persons as think much I should hold my Power in the Latter would not long be Satisfied afore they requested the power from me of the former: against this I cann have no Assurance should I once grant what you have so unkindly desired: Therefore I hope you will not hence forward press any thing of this Nature to me, being resolved never to part with Powers my Charter gives me but always to Exercise them for the Ease and welfare of the Freemen under my Care, and by so doing I shall ever be left able to render a good Account of my great Charge here to my Sovereign Lord the King, by whose great grace favour and Goodness I enjoy all I have And So I rest

Your very Loving friend

Mattapony 3^d Nov^r 1682

C: Baltimore

For the Speaker and the rest of the Genl.
of the Lower house of Assembly—

Coll Henry Coursey returns from the Lower house

Came on a Message from the Lowerhouse M^r Thomas Burford to acquaint this House that they did Concurr with the Opinion of this house in drawing up Articles of Impeachment against