

[Calvert to Sharpe.]

Calvert
Papers.

London March 17th 1761.

Sir

In a former to you I mentioned "Is it not the time of choice of an opponent from the Lo: House as a continuance of proof that what they alledge is not real, but in view of taking the Loaves & Fishes?" this when I propounded, I thought not important, only reference to a Rule by the administrators of the late Lord; I agree with you the step is impolitick, & tho' it may be, is seldom to be practiced: this proposition has been admonished from the Province here ag^t further admittance i. e. only themselves. However as the Law of reason is the Rule of Govern^t & the consideration thereof is reciprocal Benefit past, present or to come, & tho' what is now offered may lead to temptation, yet, I mean with honour as may deliver from Evil; therefore shall proceed Viz^t

It must seem astonishing to any Man who knows that the Government of Maryland preferable to any in America, has within itself all the Materials & Powers proper for attaining the several Ends of Government, to find at the same time that scarce any one End of Government is answered; but if a Man having within his Power all the springs, wheelcs & Materials for a well regulated watch, will not adapt each to its proper place & Office, can he expect to find from it, the advantageous Effects of a regular movement? I would not be thought to insinuate any Blame to you Sir the Governor for this state & condition of things; I know your intentions towards his Lordship & the Province in General to be such as every Governor ought to have, nor are you fettered by Instructions, the design of your Instructions being only as General Rules of Conduct. Whether 'tis from over Scrupulosity and exactness may induce you to consider as particular & invariable Rules in all cases & emergencies. I dont pretend to know that this is the case, nor can I say whence it arises; but to Me it seems extreamly easy, with the several advantages this Government has, to prevent for the future that Turbulent & Malevolent Spirit in the Lower House of Assembly; with that silly affectation of popularity & those prejudices even in his Lordships Courts of