

Signett Which was occasioned by the Death of the Right U. H. J. Honble the Lord Baltimore Lord Proprietary of this Province in February last that he has this morning received a Letter from his present Lordship the Lord Proprietor by Captain Arbuthnott Commander of the Ship Fortune wherein He acquaints him of his Father's Death And his Majesty's good pleasure to restore the Governm<sup>t</sup> to his Lordship of this Province. But has not any direction to himself from his Majesty yet. And therefore his Excellency desires the Advice of the Board whither It is not fitting to acquaint the Delegates therefore That some Care may be taken of his Lordship's Interest in regard to the Compensation of his Rents heretofore usually taken in Tobacco

Who are of Opinion It is very Advisable And thereupon his Excellency wrote the following Letter to the Speaker

Council Chamber 30th May 1715

M<sup>r</sup> Speaker—

I am to acquaint the House of Delegates that I have a Letter from my Lord Baltimore notifying the Death of his noble Father the late Lord Baltimore Who as He has ever carried himself with great Candour & Affection to this province I must condole with you for the Loss of so good a Friend

But as his Lordship is succeeded by a worthy Son who promises as much as you can reasonably expect from his Circumstances, I congratulate with you on this Occasion, And I avow from a personal Knowledge I have of his Lordship's Disposition that you may be very happy if you please under such a Land Lord p. 113

His Lordship does me the Honour to Entrust me with his private Affairs in this Province I therefore desire to know what Resolution you will come to in relation to his Rents since his Lordship does not think fit to stand to the Agreement made by the late Lord Baltimore upon the precarious footing the Hhds now stand

John Hart.

Which was sent to the House by all the Gentlemen now present at the Board

Who went, And returned & said They had delivered his Excellency's Letter to the Speaker

The Engrossed Bill for the better Administration of Justice in Testamentary Affairs &c being read at the Board was assented to And sent to the Delegates by the honble Philemon Lloyd Esq<sup>r</sup>