

the said Thomas Smithson of Dorchester County and the said U. H. J. Thomas Smithson of Talbott County to the said Thomas Hicks & Jeremiah Davis made, and likewise to the Act intituled an Act to Supply Certain Defects in the Conveying Lands from Henry Gibbs Son and Heir of Edward Gibbs some time of Somersett County In the Province of Maryland p. 6 dec^d to Benjamin Laurence John Belt & Lucy his Wife Heirs of Benjamin Lawrence Sometime of Calvert County in the Same Province Deceased And do hereby Declare the said Acts Null, Void & of no Effect, Trusting that under my Government the Province will Continue (as it has from its Infancy) to flourish by an unbiassed Administration of the Law in the Established Courts of Justice

It would have been much more Acceptable if the Reguard you Acknowledged Yo^rselves Willing to have to our Sentiments relating to the Act for Officers ffees had Produced something more Adequate to our Judgments thereof Rather than a Desire in you Gentlemen of the Lower House that I would not Dissent to the said Act; And the most Distinguishing amongst you must necessarily know, that as People and Plenty increase in a Countrey, so ought the Rewards of Those, who for their Care Knowledge and Integrity are employed in the Severall Offices of Government, in a due Execution Whereof, so much the happyness of the People Depends And therefore that you your Selves may once more have an oppor- p. 7 tunity to make the Proper Addicions rather than Continue such Diminutions, at your Request I have not yet Dissented thereto.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Low^r Houses

The Satisfaction you Express with our Appointment of a Gentleman to be your Governour, who will I am Confident use his Utmost Endeavours, in Conjunction with me, to make you a Most happy People, My Self a happy Proprietarie and both Acceptable to his most Gracious Majestie (the Great Ends for which I sent him) Adds to the Esteem, I had before of him; having already learnt that all Government is Intended for the Publick Good, which I am Resolved to make the rule of mine.

After which his Honour the Gov^r is Pleased to bespeak the Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower houses of Assembly as follows viz.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Low^r Houses of Assembly

Having thus Delivered you, what his Lordship has Instructed I am now to Assure you that It is with the Greatest Satisfac-