

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty

L. H. J.
Lib. No. 45

In humble manner sheweth The humble Address and petition of the House of Delegates of the freemen of the province of Maryland in General Assembly convened

That your Majestys faithful and Loyal Subjects Inhabitants of the province of Maryland daily suffer many aggrievances oppressions and Extortions under the Proprietary Government of the Right Honourable the Lord Baron of Baltimore his Governor Ministers and Officers

That our Rights as British Subjects are invaded by having Taxes laid upon us without any law ; & Ordinances made by our Proprietary or his Governor with the Advice of A Council of his own choosing and who share in the Spoils of the people by holding the principal offices of the Government, imposed on us as laws ; with many other Evils too tedious here in particularity to mention, but are Contained in several Reports of our Committee of Aggrievances and other proceedings maturely considered and concurred with by us A House of Delegates, which we have taken the Liberty to transmit with this our Address in order to be laid before your Majesty, and which we hope will evince that we dont complain without sufficient cause

That to compleat our Misfortunes, after our Repeated and fruitless Sollicitations to his lordships Governor, for Relief we endeavoured to make a law for taxing ourselves in order to raise A Fund whereby to enable us to lay our Aggrievances at your Majestys feet, and implore your Royal protection, yet cannot Obtain to that law, the Assent of his Lordships Council, who, as we conceive without legal Authority, have assumed A Share in Our Legislature and a separate Negative on all Laws proposed by the Delegates in Assembly ; and holding their places in Council as well as their Offices in the Government at his Lordships Will and Pleasure are absolutely under his direction and serve only to screene him or his Governor from the imputation of any thing that is transacted hurtful or Oppressive to the people

We beg leave in the most humble manner to assure your Majesty that none of your Subjects are more peaceably disposed or more firmly attached to your Majestys person and Government than the Inhabitants of the Province of Maryland and that none of your colonies in America, would be more useful to our Mother Country, were we not dispirited and impoverished by being deprived of the Rights and priviledges of British Subjects

May it therefore please your Majesty to take our Condition into your Royal Consideration and give Instructions to his Lordship the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary his Governor and Council