

Contemporary Printed Pamphlet Md.Hist.Soc.

common Sense, and contradicting Facts which most glaringly evince the contrary. In vain therefore do their Honours deal out such soothing Speeches as this, "We know that the Inhabitants of this Province in general are an honest, well-meaning People, as loyal Subjects as any in His Majesty's Dominions, and endowed with a Spirit conducive to His Majesty's Service, to the utmost of their Abilities; but we are sorry to say, at the same time, that they are misled by the Influence of very unfaithful Guides:" In vain, I say, do they pour out such plaintive moving Strains as these; The People of Maryland will not discard these Guides, and rely upon pretended Guardians and Protectors, till they become as blind and infatuated as the simple Flock in the Fable, which being mollified and ensnared by Speeches, exactly in the Strain of their Honours just quoted, were prevailed upon to exchange their faithful Dogs for ravening Wolves.—I would not be understood, by any Thing that has been said, as if no Gentleman in that Station could be a Friend to his Country; but the Position I controvert is, that the Gentlemen of that Branch are so, from the Nature of their Constitution.—Men there are of such invincible Integrity, that no View of Profit, or Incentive of Ambition, can seduce them from the Duty they owe to their Country, nor do I deny that there are such at present in the Council; p. 52 but such a Conduct must flow from their personal Merits and Virtues, and not from any Influence arising from the Frame and Constitution of that Body, since I think it must most clearly appear, from what has been said above, that whenever there is any Competition of Interests between the People and Proprietor, their Honours must be under the Bias of very powerful Motives to prefer the latter, and consequently cannot be the constitutional Guardians and Protectors of the Peoples Rights.

Their Honours are pleased to urge the following Extract from the Report of the Lords of Trade, on the Pennsylvania Acts, against the Lower House:—"We are satisfied that there is nothing so likely to preserve the Tranquility of the Province itself, or its Dependence upon the Mother Country, as the maintaining, with a strict and steady Hand, the necessary Powers and just Prerogatives of the Crown, and the preferring an uniform and settled Principle of Government, to an occasional Departure from it, for temporary Convenience. Every Day's Experience convinces us, that it is in vain to negotiate away His Majesty's Prerogatives; every new Concession becomes a new Demand, and that, my Lords, of some new Dispute."—Every Proposition in this Part of the Report, I believe all the Inhabitants of Maryland will very readily assent to, as too rational to admit of any Doubt; but it is not enough to cite true Propositions, for this would make Controversy endless, and the Pastime only of Children, but it is necessary that they should be applicable to the Points in p. 53 Dispute. However true it may be, that it is expedient to maintain the