

find out some Speedy relief against the ill practices of Sheriffs selling men's Estates for little Value to the ruin of their Widows and Orphans being read this Board are pleased to declare that they have already represented the deplorable Circumstances of the Province in General to the Right honourable the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations and desired their Lordships to lay them before her most Sacred Majesty in order to the Advancing the Value of tobacco in great Brittain. And as to the particular Complaints of the ill practice of Sherriffs (if any such illegal or indirect practice be made appear to be used by any Sherriff in Selling the Estates of any the Inhabitants at under Rates) This Board will advise the honble President to punish such Sherriff or Sherriffs not only by displacing them but by giving directions that they shall be prosecuted according to the utmost Severity of the Law

U. H. J.

L<sup>t</sup> Col Hoskins & seven more of the Delegates brought up the following Answer to the honourable President's Speech at the opening of the Session Viz.

To the honble Edward Lloyd Esq<sup>r</sup> President of her Majesty's honourable Council in Maryland & Commander in chief thereof

We acknowledge ourselves abundantly obliged to return our hearty thanks not only for your prudent timing of this Session but for the generous regard you have at all times had for the Honour of her Majesty for making easy the annual Charge of the Province and for the general Welfare of the Inhabitants thereof And as we have hitherto had Sufficient Reason to applaud the Ingenuity of your Administration in making your Duty to her Majesty and love to her Subjects so eminently appear that none Can accuse you of neglect in Either We hope we shall not have less reason so to do at the End of this Session than heretofore we have had

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We shall be very glad of the opportunity of joining with you and her Majesty's honourable Council in the dispatching the Business of this Session & making it as short as the present Exigencies of the Province will allow but as the very meeting of this General Assembly is a considerable Charge & the setting thereof the greatest which we are to tax we hope we shall do more before we part than barely tax that charge our meeting has created

Her Majesty's Instructions are so well remembered that we shall not propose the passing any Acts that are not immediately necessary for the peace & Welfare of this Province And therefore We assure ourselves of the more ready Concurrence of your Honour and her Majesty's honble Council here to