

reward published in a Proclamation and afterwards punished U. H. J. according to their Demerritts.

Soon after these Transactions M^r Charles Carroll a professed Papist arrived from London with a Commission of so Strange a nature that under pretence of being his Lordship's Agent It Included with his Instructions many Essentiall parts of Government. These He produced to me wherein he had p. 8 Power given him to receive all the mony raised for the Support of Government and Even that for purchaseing Arms for the defence of the Country.

I refus'd indeed to Comply with both these his Demands as being Expressly Contrary to the Laws of the Province And Surely I am Excusable also in Point of Policy for so doing for I should have been by so Servile a Compliance Reduced to the Despicable Circumstance of Applying to him for my bread by Craving of him that Appointment their Lordships were pleased to nominate for my maintenance And also been Guilty of betraying this Country into the hands of a man who by Principle is an Enemy to the Protestant Constitution And this too at a time when the Rebellion was scarcely Suppressed in Great Brittain and other Invasions threatned to Destroy it.

This pson not only renewed his Demand of the mony mention'd for the Support and Defence of the Government in his Letter of the 9th Octob^r 1716, But had the Confidence therein to Caution me against passing some Laws the Assembly then Sitting had prepared for my Assent. I shall only Mention one Law I did notwithstanding his Insolent Advice then Pass, Viz.

An Act for the Better Security of his Lordship's Government and the Protestant Interest within this province

The first Publick Occasion this pson Exerted his Comission p. 9 on was to Discharge two Criminals out of Prison (one of them his Nephew) who had been informed ag^t for firing the Great Gunns on the 10th of June, but Convict of more heinous Crimes against his Majesty And this he did Contrary to the Judgment of the Court of Oyer & Terminer held on that occasion, which Obliged me to remand them back to prison untill the Fine Adjudged were Complied with, And Immediately sent for M^r Carroll and tenderd the Oaths which he refused to take For which Reason I required him to Act on his Comission in that Part only which related to his Lordships Private Estate ffor that It was a Publick Affair, And more than Unreasonable that a profest Papist should sett Criminalls att Large who were Convict of so great Crimes ag^t our Sovⁿ by only Giving a line to the Sherr that the Lord Proprietary was Satisfied as to the fine Imposed.