ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

To His Excellency Robert Eden Esqr Governour and Commander in Chief in & over the Province of Maryland.

The Petition of us the Subscribers, in behalf of ourselves & others, Members of the Presbyterian Society in Baltimore Town, humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners, being Protestant Dissenters, have at a considerable Expence purchased a Lot of Ground, & erected thereon a Church, for the decent Celebration of our public Worship, in the Exercise whereof we are influenced by such Motives, as our best Information obliges us to approve. — Our religious Profession, tho different from the Church established in this Province, is perfectly consistent with the Government & Laws, which breath the Spirit of Toleration: Yet, as We enjoy no Legal Consideration in a Congregational Capacity, we are unavoidably subject to many Inconveniencies in recovering & Securing such Subscriptions as become due in the ordinary Management of our Affairs, together with any Grants, Devises, & Donations which have been, or may hereafter be, made for the Use & benefit of our Church, And fear that We are not sufficiently enabled to hold the Church, Buoying Ground & Estate of the Society by a clear & indisputable Title.

Under these Circumstances We beg leave to request, That Your Excellency would be pleased to grant unto certain Persons of our Society a Charter of Incorporation for the benefit of the Same, whereby our Apprehensions & Inconveniencies may be removed, and our Possessions effectually Secured. — With pleasure we view the spreading Catholicism of the present enlightend Age, and the agreeable Harmony which prevails among Christians of Various Denominations. — Encouraged by your liberal & generous Sentiments, We respectfully prefer this application to your Excellency, whose mild & impartial Administration, since you received the Reins of Government in Maryland, have Justly entitled you to the warmest Acknowledgments from all its Inhabitants. Shoud we be so happy as to obtain your Approbation of our Request, it will increase the Obligations we are already under to Your Excellency, in common with the whole People, who have experienced the

Salutary