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- Quote from Charles Carroll of Carrollton's first letter printed February 4, 1773 in the *Maryland Gazette*.

"1st Citizen...I have already hinted at the cause of your attachment to Government; it proceeds, I fear, more from personal considerations, than from a persuasion of the rectitude of our Court measures; but I would not have you confound Government, with the Officers of Government; they are things really distinct, and yet in your idea they seem to be one and the same.

Government was instituted for the general good, but Officers intrusted with its powers, have most commonly perverted them to the selfish views of avarice and ambition; hence the Country and court interests, which ought to be the same have been too often opposite, as must be acknowledged and lamented by every true friend of Liberty.... A wicked minister has endeavoured, and is now endeavouring in this free government, to set the power of supreme magistrate above the laws; in our mother country such ministers have been punished for the attempt with infamy, death, or exile; I am surprised that he who imitates their example, should not dread their fate."

- Quote from Daniel Dulaney's third letter printed April 8, 1773 in the *Maryland Gazette*.

"...After all, who is this man that calls himself a citizen, makes his address to the inhabitants of Maryland, has charged the members of one of the legislative branches with insolence, because in their intercourse with another branch of the legislature they proposed stated salaries, and has himself proposed a different provision for officers; contradicted the most public and explicit declarations of the Governor; represented all the Council but one to be mere fools, that he may represent him to be a political parricide; denounced infamy, exile and death; expressed a regard for the established Church of England? Who is he? He has no share in the legislature, as a member of any branch; he is incapable of being a member; he is disabled from giving a vote in the choice of representatives, by the laws and constitution of the country, on account of his principles, which are distrusted by those laws. He is disabled, by an express resolve, from interfering in the election of members, on the same account. He is not a Protestant."

- Quote from Charles Carroll of Carrollton's letter printed May 6, 1773 in the *Maryland Gazette*.

"To what purpose was the threat thrown out of enforcing the penal statutes [against Catholics] by proclamation? Why am I told that my conduct is very inconsistent with the situation of one who owes even the toleration he enjoys to the favor of government? If by instilling prejudices into the Governor, and by every mean and wicked artifice, you can rouse the popular resentment against certain religionists, and thus bring on a persecution of them, it will then be known whether the toleration I enjoy be due to the favor of government or not...."

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- Quote of a letter from Charles Carroll of Annapolis to Charles Carroll of Carrollton, March 12, 1773; Carroll Papers, III, 212.

“I send downe a Boy as Mrs. Darnall tells me she can send you some Butter ... Let ye Boy return early on Sunday, by him informe me How Countenances appeared at ye Rout, what is sayed of ye 1st Citizen and how it is Relished, I shall be much disappointed if it does not meet with a Generall Cordiall reception.”

- Quote of a letter from Charles Carroll of Annapolis to Charles Carroll of Carrollton, March 17, 1773; Carroll Papers, III, 213A.

[When the Maryland Gazette papers were printed and ready to be distributed each Thursday, the newspaper] *“Office was a long time Crouded”* [and] *“ye Publick Houses were yt night as quiet as private Ones.”*

- Quote of a letter from Charles Carroll of Annapolis to Charles Carroll of Carrollton, March 17, 1773; Carroll Papers, III, 213A.

[Whenever Charles Carroll of Carrollton was seen walking in the streets of Annapolis, his father could hear people say] *“ye Whisper immediately Ran there is ye 1st Citizen.”*

- In the May elections of 1773, members of the patriot party were overwhelmingly elected to the Lower House. The Maryland Gazette reported on May 27, 1773 that in celebration of their victory, the patriot party hung in the public square a coffin containing a copy of the Governor’s November 26, 1770 proclamation. The epitaph on the coffin read:

*“The Instructions to the Registers of the
Land Office
born 24th November 1770
Also
The Proclamation
born 26th November 1770
The Children of Folly and Oppression
Departed this Life
On ____ Day of May 1773
And were buried
By
The Freemen of Anne-Arundel County*

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- Quote from an open letter to the “First Citizen”, Charles Carroll of Carrollton from William Paca and Matthias Hammond after their election to the Assembly as patriot party delegates.

“Your manly and spirited opposition to the arbitrary attempt of government to establish the fees of office by proclamation, justly entitles you to the exalted character of a distinguished advocate for the rights of your country. The proclamation needed only to be thoroughly understood to be generally detested, and you have had the happiness to please, to instruct, to convince your countrymen. It is the public voice, sir, that the establishment of fees by the sole authority of prerogative is an act of usurpation, an act of tyranny, which in a land of freedom cannot, must not, be endured.

The free and independent citizens of Annapolis, the metropolis of Maryland, who have lately honored us with the public character of representatives, impressed with a just sense of the signal service which you have done your country, instructed us on the day of our election to return you our hearty thanks. Public gratitude, sir, for public services, is the patriot’s dues; and we are proud to observe the generous feelings of our fellow-citizens towards an advocate for liberty. With pleasure we comply with the instructions of our constituents, and in their name we publically thank you for the spirited exertion of your abilities.”

- One historian, Ellen Hart Smith, who wrote a book in 1942 titled *Charles Carroll of Carrollton* is quoted as saying:

“Thanks to the First Citizen so cluttered the pages of the Gazette that members of the governor’s party quite lost their taste for reading newspapers.” Page 114.

- Chronology of Charles Carroll of Carrollton’s Political Career

1774 – became a member of the Committee of Correspondence for Anne Arundel and Annapolis (November)
1774 – elected to the 2 nd Maryland Convention
1775 – served on the Maryland Committee of Correspondence and Council of Safety (summer)
1776 – participated in a Continental Congress mission seeking Canada’s support for the American cause (February)
1776 – chosen as a delegate to the Second Continental Congress (June)
1776 – signed the Declaration of Independence document (August)
1776 – appointed as a delegate to the convention to write Maryland’s first State Constitution and Declaration of Rights
1776 – elected member of the first Maryland Senate
1777 – appointed delegate to Congress
1783 – elected President of the Maryland Senate
1789 – served as one of Maryland’s first two U.S. Senators