

The Answer of Richard Tilghman to a certain paper of Articles exhibitted from the Lower House against the said Tilghman to the honourable the Upper House of Assembly as high Sherriff of Talbott County

U. H.  
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The first Article wherein the said Tilghman was Charged for Levying and Exacting from the people of that County more Tobacco than was due or Assessed by the publick and his Lordships Comm<sup>rs</sup> of that County this Respond<sup>t</sup> saith that the List of the publick and County Charge was sent by the Clerk of the County to your Respond<sup>t</sup> about the twentieth of November 1670 Signed under his hand Wherein the publick Charge that your Respondent was to pay amounted to 32124<sup>lb</sup> tob<sup>o</sup> the Sallary whereof is 3212<sup>lb</sup> in all 35336<sup>lb</sup>. This Tob<sup>o</sup> was to be Raised out of 776 Tythables of our County that it was not Cast up p poll as by the List under the Clerks Test may appear That it being late in the Year & your Respond<sup>t</sup> sickly he was obliged to Cast it up at what p poll & so Enter it in his Book that so his Undersherriff might go to receive Tob<sup>o</sup> Which he did in the presence of M<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Hinson one of our Comm<sup>rs</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> John Keely That at that time it was cast up at 47<sup>lb</sup> p poll but suddenly after by your Respond<sup>t</sup> alone found to be only 46, & about 346 over Which he did immediately certify to his under Sherriff and accordingly he did receive of the people That your Respond<sup>t</sup> after this did hear of some noise that the Courseys had declared to the people that the Levy was 44 p poll That in January Court they were about Examining the List and found all the particulars true, the same likewise cast up true but Concluded it to amount to no more p poll than 44 I Entreated them to multiply the Tythables of our County by 44 & if they found the whole Sum of tobacco I was obliged by the List to pay included it was right otherwise not Which they refusing to do I told them in the open Court that is was possible there might be an Error but that it was far from me to wrong the County, That it was well known the Country last Yeare was indebted unto me by mistake 960<sup>lb</sup> tob<sup>o</sup> If your Respond<sup>t</sup> did prove indebted to the County he would Satisfy it in the next Levy for now his Books being made up the Error if any were not being Considerable they could not handsomely be altered

This being declared in open Court by your Respond<sup>t</sup> they proceeded no further and none Contradicting they seemed satisfied, this M<sup>r</sup> Woolman & Cap<sup>t</sup> Lloyd can testify

To the second Article wherein the said Tilghman was taxed for Contemning his Lordship's Comm<sup>rs</sup> by replying to some Persons thereof when demanded the reasons of the af<sup>d</sup> Exaction that it was the ignorance of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> who could not cast the Levy aright Your Respond<sup>t</sup> saith that he never did