

P. R. O.  
Colonial  
Papers.

the proprietarys pocket, is truth, and thether thy stretch all their law proceedings and Acts of Assembly.

O Hypocrits, you whitlime your fals metle Actions over with my Lord's and y<sup>r</sup> glisteringe paternall care, in a late remonstrance throughout the province published under protestation, wherein yourselfe aknowledge the peoples grievances, and now the chop is done promise that all foure elected Burgesses shall com to the Assembly That Davis was Captain of as an ill branch of a tree (a the like smoth (a turnnip) Attorney's speaches againt which wee declare and protest, that all the good you and my Lord heas done to the Country common good, by exactinge and forcing from the people, so many hundred thousands pound of tobacco, takinge awaye especially within this two years, the fourth parts of poore peoples livelyhood and yearly produce out of their labour, and with som that haes greater charges then workers more is That y<sup>e</sup> have destroyed therewith many 100 of the king's subjects; shewed your folly to the very Indians orriginated the distractions in Virginia and Maryland, and make us and ovr wyffs and children crye, flye, trye, pye, paye, suffer and curss you for it.

O yee Assembly men, you have no power to yeeld to all their perswasions and subtelties, to enslave us and our posterity, to give ovr labours and substance away with the Customs mony from the Merchants, to maintain my lord a prince and his upstarts Lords here? Have wee not given him gratitud and doth his quitt rent not amount to a vast sum of mony, besides port dutys, fines, escheats, entring, clearing and takeing of ships and vessells, item licences, fees, merchandizing: and a great many other imunities besides a number of mannours, iff he would improve them and plantations &c. All this is yearly extracted out of the Country to particular uses, and the poore people left, to maintain themselves and all other publiq charges, so that there is little difference between them and bondslaves that work 3 days for themselves and 3 days to maintaine others, for set the inland store keepers: the ordinary Keepers; Attournys: and fee officers, aside, which feed upon the people (as the woolves uppon the sheepe) no other is the condition of a poore planter that haes nothing els to trust to, which perhaps from the beginninge havinge worked from hand to mouth for his wyff and children, becoms at length able to buye him a servant or two, may bee 3. Which hee must cloath, dyed and season to the Country and to lerne how to worke and live: and pay taxes and Country leavis for, and may bee, is sikly all the yeare and at laest dyeth, and if his catle and hoghs, most comonly in hard winters, dyes too, away is the planters Estate gone and hee must shuffle and cut amongst the great ones, to begin againe. Others make a fayre outside, whilst