

Liber K. and publick Affair prays your Petitioner may have a hearing before your Honours whereby your Petitioner may be relieved  
 And he shall Ever pray &c<sup>a</sup>  
 W Taylard

The Petitioner according to Summons appearing here this day is required to make oath to the truth of what he hath alledged in his above Petition and what else he knoweth concerning the Premises &c<sup>a</sup> which he did as follows (viz<sup>t</sup>)

The Deposition of William Taylard Clerk of  
 the Provincial Court of the Province of Maryland

This Deponent saith that in the Month of September last past S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Lawrence Secrety of Maryland together with Coll Nicholson Deputy Governor came to the Provincial Office & demanded of this Deponent the Journall of the house of Assembly there filed making use of M<sup>r</sup> Cheseldines name who was late Speaker of that House that he had assured them that the Clerk of that House should make out another Copy and File with other Arguments used this Deponent taking S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Lawrence to be his Master and keeper of those Records did deliver the afores<sup>d</sup> Journall to Sir Thomas Lawrence who immediately delivered it to Coll Nicholson with Intent to be Carried out of the Province this Deponent further saith that the Body of the Laws of this Prov<sup>s</sup> a Record was demanded from your Petitioner by Sir Thomas Lawrence near about the same time and has notwithstanding request of this Deponent kept the same in his hands till about the fifth day of this month April 1693 then a Copy of the aforesaid Journal & the Book of the Laws were put in amongst this  
 p. 174 Deponents papers in his private Chamber and not the Office unknown to him and this Deponent further saith not  
 April 8 1693 W Taylard

Sworn to before the Gov<sup>r</sup> & Councill  
 J LL Cl Councill

Ordered to be brought & was produced and read Statute the 8<sup>th</sup> of Henry the 6<sup>th</sup> against imbezzling of Records declared to be Felony &c<sup>a</sup>

His Excellency demands the opinion and advice of the Councill upon the whole matter

Whereupon they declare that the Articles of Charge drawn up against him being Evidently & Sufficiently proved & made appear from the Records of the Councill proceedings, his own Writings and Papers, together with other substantial Circumstances and Evidences rendring him so highly Criminal against the Laws & Statutes of England as not to admit of Bayle