

Original
Journal.

Office has formerly been held & how it now stands, to w^{ch} the Gentlemen of the Councill make Answer that all warrants for land & pattents did in the Lord Baltemores time issue out of the fores^d Office & all Certificates for the Same were Constantly thither Returned & there Entered upon Record of w^{ch} his Lordsp^s Secretarys had alwayes the Custody & ffees settled for issueing & Entering all such Writeings as likewise that there was a ffee Settled by an Act of Assembly of this Province upon his L^dsps Chancelor for the sealeing all pattents for Land, That in the late Govern^r Copleys time a Law passed giveing the same ffees as is aforemenconed, Unto their Ma^{ts} Secretary & Chancellor w^{ch} stands still Unrepealed & they do further say that his Lsp has now Erected an Office for granting Lands as formerly whose Officers take all such fees of the people now as were p^rscribed by the said Act; but for the well
 p. 77 Settleing & fully Ascertainig & Regulateing the aforementioned Office & for the Satisfaction of the Inhabitants of this Province they doe humbly Represent that it will be Absolutely necessary that this being the true State of the whole matter, the same may be humbly Laid before his Sacred Ma^{ty} to the End his Royall pleasure may be knowne by whome the said ffees shall be taken & where is thought the properest place to preserve & keep the said Records in.

The pctition of Somerset County Comission^{rs} Returned back from the House of Burgesses signifyeing their Opinion that the Same did not properly lye before them, was thereupon taken into consideracōn by this Board.

And the Burgesses belonging to the said County sent for to see w^t they had to say thereto whoe accordingly Appeared & the said Matter fully Debated & Argued & then the said Burgesses with drew.

Resolved & Ordered that the Court house lately begun to be built in Somersett County by Order of the Comission^{rs} of the said County be out of hand finished & that the Courts be there held & kept;

And that an Order of this Board of the 30th of July last past relateing thereto be Null & Void

Produced the following papers sent from the house of Burgesses to this Board Viz^t.

By the Burgesses of Assembly October 18th 1694.

Proposed whether all Shipps remaining here in this province after the fleet have sailed, haue liberty to sayle or to be stopt to goe in a ffleete, This house doth think fit that they may be