

Lib. H. D. Dent, witnesses nominated to attest the s^d Article were called, and upon hearing the said Article read Do say that
 p. 627 the Act of Assembly does direct, the Collection of the duty of o1^s: o6^d: p hh^d for w^{ch} they referr themselves to the said Act; and their opinions upon an Order of Refference about the Collection of 6^d p hh^d on tobacco brought out of Virginia.

His Ex^{ncy} demands of the severall Gentlemen of the Council what they can say concerning the severall Articles laid gainst him by Cap^t Slye, this night read unto them; who make answer that they can say nothing in Affirmation of any one Article therein contain'd; but find the same altogether frivolous, idle & impertinent.

Ian^{ry} the 12th 1697/8.

The Council again Sate and were present as yesterday. Capt^t Iohn Bayne & M^r Will^m Taylard being by Summoned to this Council came this day & made their appearance; Whereupon the 7th 10th & 11th Articles were in Order read as follows viz^t.

7th He keeps the present Assembly on foot by a writt dated after they first sate, sends forth writts for fresh members, though others are legally Elected & alive.

10th Such persons as has been not dissatisfyed to the King and Government he putts into Offices of the Government.

11th Such persons as hath been truly Loyall to their Majesties & first appeared for them & Government he not only prosecutes & disturbes, but calls them Rebels & Traytors and threatens to hang them.

M^r Will^m Taylard being question'd to the said three articles made oath upon the Holy Evangelist before Cap^t Thomas Tasker (one of his Maj^{ties} Iustices of the Provincial Court) in Council, that he utterly denyes his knowledge of any such things as mention'd in the said three Articles.

p. 158 Cap^t Bayne being sworn to the 17th Article yesterday taken notice off and now again read; does (upon his Corporall Oath taken) say he is an absolute stranger to any such thing, and th^t if he had known what he had been summoned about, he could have given some better account and therefore craves time to make his further answer. M^r Taylard declares upon his Oath, he had no cognizance of what he was summoned about, and being asked by his Ex^{ncy} about a letter he rec^d from Cap^t Slye touching some reflections in the said Letter cast upon his Ex^{ncy} The said Taylard confesses he has such a Letter by him, w^{ch} he will at any time produce.

M^r Sam^l Watkins of Calvert County being sent for came.