

Parties attend this Board with their Evidences on the twentieth Day of October next; and It is likewise ordered that the Attorney General stay Prosecution on the Information exhibited in Talbot County Court, and which is now depending in the Provincial Court against the said Matthew Cohune, until further Order. Lib. M.

His Excellency having been pleased to lay before this Board an humble Address to him from the Lower house of Assembly presented setting forth "That as hearing the Complaint of those they represented and examining into the Nature of any Oppression they may labour under was One of the most essential Parts of the Great Trust committed to them, they begged Leave to acquaint his Excellency that in Execution of that Trust they found by the Information as well as Testimony of several Persons had under Examination before them; that M<sup>r</sup> Philip Thomas a Farmer of his Lordships Quit Rents had grievously oppressed many of his faithful Tenants, and contrary to his Lordships known disposition in a most arbitrary and unwarrantable manner exacted and extorted from them in Discharge of their Quit Rents several sums of foreign Gold and Silver at a Rate far less than is declared their Sterling Value by his Lordships Instruction of the fifteenth Day of December seventeen hundred thirty and five, and in open Contempt of his Lordships Direction by the said Instruction

"It likewise appeared that M<sup>r</sup> Gilbert Crockett a Receiver under the said Philip Thomas had not only in the like oppressive arbitrary and contemptuous manner committed Crimes of the like Nature, but also exacted and extorted from several of his Lordships Tenants sundry sums of Money or Tobacco as fees due to himself which they conceived not to be warranted by any Law or Custom; that they viewed these Abuses with the utmost Abhorrence as they were committed under an Administration that never countenanced the least Oppression, and were such as might tend to alienate the minds of his Lordships Tenants from his Dominion and Government, & thought in Justice to the Country the Persons committing such Abuses ought to be treated in such manner as might effectually discountenance all Oppressions of the like kind for the future, and to that End they begged Leave to entreat his Excellency to direct that the said Philip Thomas and Gilbert Crockett might be prosecuted according to Law for their Oppressions and Exactions aforesaid, and in Order more fully to open the Scene of their Behaviour to lay before his Excellency a Copy of the Report of the Committee of Aggrievances concurred to by that House with the Depositions annex, not doubting but his Excys Iustice and Regard for the well