

Lib. C. B. ment that We are Sorry we have cause to Name it, how to Palliate or give reasons for such uncommon Behaviour we should be at a Loss, was it not apparently propagated, and infused into the heads of the Vulgar by a Person in the Parish who makes Popularity his Darling drift and to Appearance looks upon all manner of Government as a Nuisance Expressly declaring that no Regard he will pay to his Excellencys Order touching the Premises; Persons and Familys of the first Rank among us (even of the fair Sex) who cannot Engage with the Robust, often times with difficulty are obliged to Accept of some incommodious Place to Sit down upon when others of a Different Sex & Rank are commodiously Placed who will not give Ear to decency and Order Alledging their Right is Equal to any ones; by this Confusion and irregular behaviour the Service of the Church becomes tiresome to us and the Insults we meet with from a Number of People, who rather chuse to follow their own Giddy fancy than any Order, may easily be conjectured; the Number of Protestant Taxables in this Parish as near as we can Collect is about 500 and the Proportion we bear, may be discovered by the Number of Taxables to Our Names put down

Therefore humbly Pray Your Excellency and Honours to take this our case into your Serious Consideration, we fully conceiving when the Reins of Government in Church as well as State are once departed from a Melancholy Confusion must immediately Ensue especially from the Low part of Mankind, hurried into wild disorder by their own humors & undigested Reasonings and the Pleasing thoughts of being every Persons Equals, Humbly hoping your Excellency and honours will be pleased to make and enforce such an Order, that proper Pews or parts thereof in our Parish Church may be Assigned, as well for the Honourable Richard Lee Esq<sup>r</sup> and his Family, as for us your Petitioners & Familys Agreeable to the Numbers our Familys Severally Consist of, the proportion we pay towards the Support of the Church and the Characters we Severally bear, If a general Regulation, by your Excellency and Honours should not be thought proper

William & Mary Parish	Benj: Fendall	33 Taxables
November 25 <sup>th</sup> 1751.	Geo: Dent	24 Taxables
	Rob <sup>t</sup> Yates	12 Taxables

May it Please your Excellency & Honours—

I humbly conceive from the present disturbance in the Parish, and the disorders and contentions which frequently happen in & about the Church, that your Interposition in the Premises is absolutely necessary, and that the Gentlemen Petitioners have just cause of Complaint

Sam<sup>l</sup> Clagett Rect<sup>r</sup>