

Lib. 82, J. R. tation of Officers' Fees with the same Proviso as was contained as aforesaid in the Act of 1676 and so from Time to Time from 1692 to 1725 except for a very short Interval

In the year 1692 when the Government of the Province was assumed by the Crown M^r Copley was appointed Governor and was empowered by his Commission and Instructions from the Crown to settle with the Council the fees of Officers.

M^r Blakiston received a Commission in 1692 from their Majesties to be Commissary General and was thereby empowered to receive the fees and Emoluments that should be settled by them or their Governor and Council.

Governors Nicholson Blackiston Seymour and Hart, the Successive Governors after Copley appointed by the Crown till Lord Baltimore was restored, were respectively empowered by their Commissions to Settle the Fees of Officers.

In the Province of New York the fees of Officers were settled in the year 1708 by the Governor and Council and their Regulation has continued to the present time.

In the year 1733 there then being no act of Assembly for the Purpose and Lord Baltimore being in Maryland He settled the Fees of Officers.

The Costs in the Courts of Law and Equity consist of the fees paid to the Officers and Lawyers and from the year 1733 to the year 1747 the Officers charged their fees according to his Lordship's Settlement and all the Judgments of the several Courts during that Period were [settled] accordingly.

In 1747 An Act of Assembly passed for the Inspection of Tobacco and by this Act Tables of Fees for all the Officers were established. This Act being Temporary expired in the year 1770.

On the expiration of this Act Governor Eden and the Council settled the fees according to the Tables of the said expired Act and a Proclamation issued to notify the same

It is to be observed that fees have always been charged in Tobacco and it being inconvenient to Pay when and as soon as the Services are performed the Officers have always given Credit to the Suitors and the fees are annually Collected by the Sheriffs.

In the Acts of Assembly settling the Fees of Officers a Remedy was given to them to compel Payment of fees by Distress and on this Account particularly the Officers have been desirous of a Settlement by Act of Assembly and on Account of this Convenience to the Officers. Advantage has been taken or aimed at from time to time to reduce very much their Fees.

From the Expiration of the Act of 1747 to the present Time the Costs in all the Courts have been taxed according to the