

And sent to the upper house by M^r James Lloyd & Cap^t L. H. J. Fendall. They return and say they Delivered it.

The Mayor Recorder & Aldermen of the City of Annapolis praying Leave to be heard on their Pet^o in relation to the Town Comon appeared in the House, who being heard and their Allegacons Considered The further Consideracon thereof is referr'd till next Sessions of Assembly at which Time it is Ordered that Lancellot Todd be ordered to appeare.

M^r Tyler from the Committee of Aggrievances delivers M^r Speaker the following Report of that Committee viz:

Monday May 5th 1718.

At a Committee of Agrievances held at the house of M^{rs} Mary Dodd. Were present.

M^r Robert Tyler Chairman
M^r Charles Wright
Col^o Nathⁿ Hynson
Cap^t Dan^{ll} Mariartee
Cap^t Thomas Dent

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Who the same day represent it as an Aggrievance that a great Number of the Inhabitants of this Province have been Subpœnaed to appear at the high Court of Chancery to answer the Bill of Complaint of Maurice Birchfield Esq^r upon Suggestion that they were indebted to a Certain John Goodwin, and other Merchants in London, before making any Demand or giving Notice of Such their Claim Some of which never had any dealings with the Merch^{ts} they are Charged Debtors to others have been large Creditors instead of Debtors and many th^t were Debtors did by the Merchants own Accounts owe but very Small and Trifling Sumes Short of six Pound which by the Laws of the Land are not cognizable in the Chancery Court Notwithstanding which Such Persons have been obliged to Make Answers and defend their Suites to their Great Expence and neglect of their Business in attending of Courts & when on a hearing the greatness of their Oppressions by such Severe Prosecucons have been made Appear they have been Dismissed the Court but could recover no Costs ag^t the said Birchfield because of his Acting on behalf of the Crown, altho the trouble and Charge of Such Defence might have been Saved to the People in Case the said Birchfield or his Attorney had not proceeded after so uncommon and imethodicall a manner ag^t the Severall Defendants without demand or Notice p. 67
Severall of them having declared in their Answers upon Oath that they were never demanded by the Said Maurice Birchfield Esq^r or any other on her Majesty's behalf to give any