

U. H. J. time being of them & will proceed to execute the Law notwithstanding the same Letters I will hold the Courts according to the Acts of Assembly and directions in my Commission I will do and procure the Profits of the Lord Proprietary in all things where I may lawfully and Reasonably do the same I will not debar or hinder the prosecution of Justice nor take any Gift Bribe or Fee for delaying or hindering Judgment but will behave myself Justly honestly and faithfully to the best of my knowledge and Understanding so long as I shall continue in the said Office So help me God.

A Message from the Lower House by M<sup>r</sup> Dashiell and [Cap<sup>t</sup>] Ebenezer Blackiston viz.

By the Lower House of Assembly November 2<sup>d</sup> 1724.

May it please your Honours

We cannot imagine that your Honours have had the least cause of concern or Surprize for any the matters you are pleased to impute to us by your message of the 31<sup>st</sup> past by M<sup>r</sup> Bowles and of this day by M<sup>r</sup> Tasker as Unpresidented Unparliamentary or Violating any the Priviledges of Your House which whatsoever they be we wish you Always had and would preserve free from Violation as We do for tho  
 p. 156 you are pleased to Suppose a mistake In us, we can hardly have that Supposition of your House since We so plainly by our Message of the 31<sup>st</sup> past by M<sup>r</sup> Tyler and M<sup>r</sup> Taylor pointed out to your Honours how those Interlineations were made Viz. In conformity to your message indorsed on the Bill and since Your Honours are pleased to Insist that we have Apparently Violated the Priviledges of your House by our Artfully excusing as you are pleased to term it the Merchants therein mentioned instead of Excluding the Whole Paragraph we take the Liberty of Insisting but We hope with much more Candour and Justice that your Messages never could bear the sence you now contend for never proposing to exclude the whole paragraph nor to exclude any others but the Secretary and the Merchants and the amendment we made which you were pleased with so much freedom to Upbraid us with was only to exclude the Secretary and the Merchants but if you intended and hop'd to lead us into the Excluding all others when your words and our Intentions plainly intimated to you were to exclude none others we pray you to consider who were Endeavouring to be the most Artful especially considering that your Concurrence with the Bill on the Amendments you proposed was one Great Inducement for this House's postponing the further Consideration of those Unreasonable fees to the Secretary.