

U. H. J. the first it is true that several of the fees were reduced by the Conferees under what they were limited to in the Year 1725 with good Reason as we conceive for we take it for granted that when the quantity each Officer ought to receive for his Services comes to be considered by the Legislature the Principal thing to be regarded is the real value of the Service & when what the service is justly worth is allowed he that receives that Allowance has as much in Justice and Reason as he ought to have and we can prove to a demonstration that the fees as limited by the Conferees are a decent Support for the respective Officers are ample Rewards for the Services to be done for the said fees and it is evident by the Report it self that great care has been taken not only to allow fees that were Omitted in the former Regulation but also to encrease such as fell short of Rewards Adequates to the Service to be done for them that the fees as regulated by the Conferees are a decent support for the respective Officers would appear manifestly if a Calculation was made of the Income of such as one in a Condition by having a Considerable number of Slaves to make large Quantities of Tobacco and that Calculation compared with the Profits of several (even of the midling Offices) and we beg leave to Observe further that nothing ought to be Assessed upon a particular man or number of Men but for the good and safety of Society and in proportion to what the other members of the same Society bear but what such particular men or number of men receive the value of whence it follows that if the fees regulated by the Conferees were not really what your Honours intend by a decent Support for the Officers it would be of no weight Provided those fees be (as they really are) ample rewards for the Services to be done for them besides the Circumstances of the Country makes it our Indispensable duty to avoid as much as in us lies and as is Consistent with Justice Adding to the heavy and almost insupportable Burthens the People already given under which we conceive would be the case should we agree to raise the fees of Ministerical Officers beyond the true Value of their Services and which we hope your Honours have too much Compassion for the People to desire much less to press, To the second we conceive that the fall of Tobacco is no reason for Advancing the fees unless such fall enables people to make the greater Quantity of it can be proved that it does it will follow that the fees ought to be advanced in proportion for the Officers like all other members of the Society ought to have their proportion of publick Advantages as they must bear an equal share of publick inconveniences and tho Tobacco is in truth lower than it was in 1725 yet have the people nothing to depend on for a Support but what the remains of A Crop after Officers and others are paid their demands will produce and if the sinking the value of Tobacco be a Reason for the Augmentation of Officers fees and that they are accordingly