

U. H. J. promise to give you all the Assistance in my power to put an end to the Dispute to general Satisfaction: And this I conceive to be a better way, and more advantageous to the Country than for me to Assent to any Act contrary to my Instructions which will give His Lordship such Just Reason to dissent to it; And I propose as an Expedient, untill the matter can be happily Settled according to His Lordships and your own desires that the severall Majestrates take any of the Oaths which have usually been taken before the Dispute began about the Judges Oath, that may lay them under the strictest Obligation to Administer Justice equally and uprightly to the People According to the usage and Constitution of the Province

Samuel Ogle

#### Form of an Oath of Judge or Justice

You shall swear that as a Justice of the Provincial Court of Maryland in all Articles of his Lordships Commission to you directed, you shall do equall Law and right to all the Kings Subjects Rich and Poor, According to the Laws Customs & directions of the Acts of Assembly of this Province; and where they are Silent, According to the Laws Statutes and Reasonable Customs of England as have  
 p. 175 been used and Practised in this Province: and not delay any person of Common right for any cause or pretence whatsoever: And in Case any Letters shall come to you contrary to Law, that you do nothing by them but cause them to be Entered on Record, and Certifye the King the Lord Proprietary or the Governor (for the time being) of them and proceed to Execute the Law notwithstanding the said Letters: That you shall hold your Courts According to the Acts of Assembly and the Directions in your Commission that you shall do and procure the profitt of the Lord Proprietary in all things where you may lawfully and reasonably do the same: And that you shall not Debarr or hinder the Prosecution of Justice, nor take any Gift bribe or fee for delaying or rendering of Judgment but shall behave yourselfe Justly honestly and faithfully to the best of your knowledge and understanding so long as you shall Continue in the said Office So help you God.

The following Message being prepared is sent to the Lower House by Col Ward and Michael Howard Esq<sup>r</sup>

By the Upper House of Assembly 17<sup>th</sup> July 1732

Gentlemen.

On reading and Considering the Bill sent up from your House by M<sup>r</sup> Beale and 24 more prescribing the form of an Oath to be taken by the Judges and Majestrates in this Province, We find it much the same with that Contained in the bill passed last Session by both Houses for that purpose but refused by our late Governor; And as his