

Liber LL, 4
Acts at two pence Sterling per pound in such Manner and on such Conditions and Termes as his noble Ancestors have heretofore done for the greater Ease to their Tenants in the payment of their Rents and the better to Encourage the Cultivation and Settlement of the remoter Parts of this their Proprietorship

And For as much as the Gratuity formerly settled on his said Lordships Ancestors before the Decease of the late Right Honourable Charles Lord Baron of Baltemore was raised by an Impost of twelve pence on the Exportation of every Hoggshead or Four Hundred pounds of Tobacco which Impost determined by the Death of the s^d Right Honourable Charles Lord Baron of Baltemore so that thereby his Lordships Rent became payable in money But Forasmuch as to have continued the payment thereof in money would have been wholly impracticable from the great Scarcity of it amongst us and that it would not only have tended much to the disappointment of his Lordship in receipt of his Rents but also to the Oppression of such Tenants as held Lands under Conditions of such punctuall Payment as the Tenour of their Grants requires and to the disenheriting many who would have been obliged to Surrender their Estates for want of Ability to comply therewith which in all probabillity would have
p. 308 proved a Check to the further Cultivation of the Remote and Farrest Lands of this Province being parte of his Majestys Dominions. All which Inconveniencies that Generall Assembly most earnestly desired might be provided against. And for asmuch as the Quantity of Tobacco then usually exported on w^{ch} might be exported in a Hoggshead of the Gage by this Act settled exceeded the Quantity which was commonly reputed to be the Contents of a Hoggshead at the time when the af^d Twelve pence τ Hoggshead was settled on his Lordships Ancestors for the makeing easy the payment of his Rents & Times for Alienations af^d and also for that altho the number of Hoggsheads annually exported hath much increased since that time yet for that the value of his said Lordships Rents hath much more encreased a Law was then passed for the raising an Impost of Eighteen Pence Sterl τ Hundred on Tobacco exported out of this Province in Box Chest Barrell or Case for the use of the said Lord Proprietarie in Consideration of his takeing Rents and Alienacōn Fines in Tobacco at two pence Sterl per pound And whereas his present Lordship the Right Honourable Charles Lord Baron of Baltemore since the Decease of his noble Father the late Lord Benedict has signified to this present Generall Assembly his Willingness to accept of an Additionall Duty of Six pence Sterl per Hoggshead in full Satisfaction of his Quit Rents & Fines for Alienations that shall arise or grow due within this Province during the Continuance of this Act which is thought by the Generall Assembly to tend to the Good of the Generality of the poorer Sort of Planters and especially those Orphans who holds Lands within this Province Be it Enacted by the Right