

L. H. J. received a General order from the said Edmund Jenings Esq^r to
 Lib. No. 45 receive no Declaration or other pleading whatever into the said
 Office, untill Security was given by the parties to the said Pleadings
 respectively, for such fees as should arise due to the said Secretary
 in such Actions.

that the said Edmund Jenings Esq^r then and still Secretary of
 this Province was employed from the beginning of the said Action
 on behalf of Both the said Defendants, as their Attorney, that for
 want of the receipt of such Declaration into the said office for the
 reasons aforesaid, a non suit was had against the said Ann Cock-
 shutt, and she was Surprized and taken with an Execution for Costs
 thereon that upon the Renewal of the said Action by the said Ann
 Cockshutt against the said Charles Drury and John Campden he the
 said Joseph Hall was obliged to give a Judgment Bond in the
 penalty of ten Thousand Pounds of Tobacco, payable to the said
 Edmund Jenings Esq^r as security for all such fees as should Accrue
 due to the said Edmund Jenings, in the said Action, before the writ
 was Suffered to Issue from the said office. That the said Hall
 deemed himself by the Discourse between him and the said Edmund
 Jenings, Esq^r in Calvert County aforesaid, Chargeable with, and
 Liable to pay unto the said Edmund Jenings, all such fees as should
 have accrued due in the said Action.

And your said Committee humbly observe, that the said Hall is
 a person of undoubted Credit and that Altho, he had not, by the
 Discourse aforesaid, deemed himself Liable for the said fees, yet the
 said Ann Cockshutt, also, by repute, is a person of good Credit and
 Ability, and very Capable to have paid any Costs that had, or Could
 have arisen in the Prosecution of the said Suit. Your Committee
 humbly Conceive, that such Actings and Doings are a let Hindrance
 to, and a Denial of Justice, and greatly tend to the unnecessary
 Multiplication of fees and of Course to the unnecessary Burthening
 the subject; and that the taking of Judgment Bonds or any Bonds
 in such Cases is Extortion; and that it is a great Aggrievance, and
 a present growing Evil against Law and Reason that his Lordships
 Secretary of State who is thereby Chief Clerk of the Provincial,
 and Chief Register in Chancery Courts, his Deputy, Clerks or other
 officers of Any Courts of Record within this province, to whose
 power, Care and Keeping, the records of such Courts are Committed
 and who take and receive to themselves the profits and Advantages
 of the fees arising on all Actions Commenced and Prosecuted should
 be admitted to practice as attornies, Solicitors or Councillors, in
 such Courts the fees whereof do arise and Accrue due unto them-
 selves: and that the whole is a heavy and oppressive Aggrievance
 p. 839 and loudly calls for Redress But the same is humbly Submitted to
 the Consideration of your Honourable House

Signed 7 Order of the Committee. S Bordley Clk.