

Instructions you mention relating to Cut Gold or if that Cannot be found to give you as full an Information as possible of the Contents of the said Instruction as well as the Date thereof and the time when he received it from his Lordship.

L. H. J.
Lib. No. 45

Sam Ogle

M^r Mathews from the Committee of Aggrievances &c. Delivers the following Report

By the Committee of Aggreivances and Courts of Justice May 12th
1737

Your Committee having had Divers Informations of the Exactions and Oppressions Committed by some of the farmers and receivers of His Lordships Quit Rents have procured a Sight of the Directions given by the former Agent and also His Lordship the Lord Proprietary his Instructions bearing date at London the 15th December 1735 by which they find that by the first the farmers and receivers were Informed that the Said Agent would receive from them whole Gold at 3/11 and Cut Gold at 3/6 a penny weight and Silver at 5^s 7 p ounce and that by his Lordships aforesaid Instructions he Directs his Agent to take no foreign Gold at above £3 :16 :9 and silver at 5 S 7 p ounce from which your Committee Conceives his Lordship is willing to accept of those Kinds of money at those rates and never Intended they should be Taken from his Tennants at a less Value.

Yet your Committee have it before them by the Testimony of Witnesses that M^r Philip Thomas one of the farmers and receivers for Ann Arundell County has received 4/6 Cut Gold for 2 s sterling due from a Certain Sarah Stevens and has not from any person who has appeared before your Committee who hath paid him Cut Gold taken at a less than one hundred 7 Cent and in one Instance where he had Destrained a Negro would not take Cut or even whole Gold altho Offered to him but Insisted on Sterling mony and by means thereof the said Negro was Kept in Custody a Day or two Longer and thereby the person to whom the Negro Belonged forced to Pay 20 7 Day besides the Other fees Charged to and paid by the master of the said Negro and that he has been so far from accepting Spanish Silver at the rate by his Lordship Directed founded upon the Value the same mony and whole and Cut Gold Bear in London that he has refused to accept such mony Viz.

Spanish Silver at less then one hundred 7 Cent Difference and has also taken Pistoles altho weighing 23s 10 at no more than 14 for 15 s and some few odd pence

Your Committee further find that by Direction in writing from Mess^{rs} Docter Samuel Chew and John Galloway who alledge themselves farmers under M^r Philip Thomas for Baltemore County said to the person who Collects the rents there Ordered not to take