

Mr Speaker communicates to the House the following Message, L. H. J. and Estimate of the Amount of his Lordship's Quit Rents, viz. Liber No. 46
Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,

In Answer to your Address concerning the Quit Rents, I have received the Account herewith sent you, from my Lord's Agent, of the nett yearly Amoust of them in the several Counties: Besides what is now received there are as I am informed, considerable sums in Arrear, which will certainly be received as the Land is chargeable with them; there are a great many Certificates in the Office which are not yet carried to the Rent Roll, a great many still in the Hands of the Surveyors, and warrants located for great Quantities but not yet executed; when all these are added, which will be in about a Year, they will increase the Amount of his Lordship's Rents very considerably.

My Lord; upon the Expiration of the late Revenue Bill, found his Rent Rolls in very great Disorder and Confusion, which put him under the necessity of allowing very great Discounts to those who farmed the Rents in some parts of the Province, and Ten per Cent Commission to Receivers: But when the Contracts with the Farmers expire, as the Rent Rolls are in good order, the Sheriffs can afford to collect the Rents for Five per Cent, because they will have the Power of Distraining, and the incident Fees.

When all these Things are considered, and that the Rents have increased in five years past to the Amount of almost four Hundred Pounds per Annum, it is very probable that the Rents, in a very few Years, will exceed £6000 Sterling per Annum, clear of Charges; and that they will still continue increasing is certain; His Lordship is very sensible of this; whence it is evident, that nothing can induce him to condescend to so low a Composition, but a Consideration of the Difficulties his Tenants are under to raise Sterling money, and an Inclination to do every Thing in his Power for their Ease.

T. Bladen

Somerset and Worcester Counties are so intermixed, that the Amount of each cannot be distinguished, but the whole comes to, by the Receivers Accounts nett, after Deduction of Commission

	£759..16..6
Dorset, Ditto	360.. 0..0
Talbot, Ditto	274.. 5..7
Queen Anne Ditto	278.. 1..0
Kent, Ditto	243.. 8..1
Cecil, Ditto	189.. 4..7
Baltimore Ditto	605..11..1
Anne Arundel Ditto	432.. 9..1
Calvert, Ditto	115..15..4