

At a following Meeting the Conferees of the Lower House acquainted the Conferees of the Upper House, that their House rejected the Proposition generally on all fees & the Conferees of the Upper House acquainted them that their House would not agree to their last mentioned Proposition but that they would Consent that the Points already agreed on should stand that Copying should be fixed at 9th of Tobacco p side and all other Fees should be rated at 20 p Cent below what they stand in his Lordships Proclamation

U. H. J.
Liber No. 34

At the next Meeting the Conferees of the Lower House rejected the last mentioned Proposition of the Upper House

Your Conferees beg Leave to Observe that at the first Entrance on the Consideration of the Quantum of the Fees it was proposed by the Conferees of the Lower House that We should lay before Us as a Rule, the fees that were allowed for service in Virginia and Pennsylvania, and they produced the Laws of those Provinces regulating the fees there for that Purpose

This the Conferees of the Lower House could not agree to, because that they apprehended there were wide differences between the Circumstances of the several Provinces, and the Services in use in each of them, They were willing that they should draw what Argument they thought proper from them, but could not Consent that they should be Considered in any Sort as Rules for them to be Regulated by, for though they may often Agree in Names the Real Service to be done may be different and they were not able to Judge wherein such Difference may Consist

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In Pennsylvania all fees are paid in Money and that Payment made at the time of doing the service, so that there is no laying out of Money, no Loss by bad Debts nor any Charges of Collection &c^a which disadvantage must always attend Officers who are paid in Tobacco; In Virginia where Fees are paid in Tobacco the Extent of that Province and number of its Inhabitants so much exceed this that the same services on both done at the same Rate must produce to the Virginia Officer much more than to the Maryland one, and the same sum of Tobacco by Reason of the very great Disparity there is between that of Virg^a and that of Maryland especially of Officers Tobacco must be a very different Recompence here and there, there are no trash Tobacco can be imposed on the Officer for all must pass Inspection, and no one can be paid Inconvenient for all Payments are at the publick Warehouses, here the Charges of Collecting Receiving Rolling and Prizing sink a very great part of the Officers Tob^o itself, and what he receives at last, is fallen into so low. Repute by the unfair Custom of Packing up Trash and Unmerchantable Tobacco, which so much prevail in this Province, that it bears no Proportion in Value with that of Virginia

And upon closing this Conference of the Lower House insisted on incerting in the Report of the proceedings their House produced as