

L. H. J. Report to the House, whether there is any Commission appointing
 Liber No. 49 Mr. John Ridout Secretary to his Excellency the Governor on
 Oct. 12 Record there; and whether it there appears that he has taken the
 Oaths to the Government, to Qualify him on such Commission; and
 likewise to inspect the said Records, and Report, whether it appears
 on Record in the said Office, that a Commission hath been granted
 by any former Governor of this Province, appointing any Person
 as his Secretary.

Your Committee have carefully examined the Records of the
 Provincial Office of this Province, and do not find any Commission
 on the said Records to John Ridout, to execute the Office of Secretary
 to Horatio Sharpe, Esq; Governor of Maryland, or any other
 Office in this Province; or that the said John Ridout ever took any
 Oath of Office, or took the Oaths to the Government, in order to
 Qualify him to execute any Office within this Province.

p. 39 Your Committee have also carefully examined the said Records
 of the said Provincial Court, from the present Time as far back
 as the Year of the happy Revolution, and do not find any Commission
 granted to any Person, to execute the Office of Secretary
 to any Governor of this Province.

All which is humbly submitted to the Consideration of your
 Honourable House.

Signed p Order, Thomas Johnson, junior, Clerk said Committee.
 Oct. 12, th 1757

Which was Read, and Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Order of the Day being Read; the House proceeded to an
 Hearing of the Petition and Representation of the Freeholders of
 St. Mary's County; and after full Examination of Witnesses at the
 Bar, Referred the Consideration thereof, until the Afternoon.

The House adjourns until 2 of the Clock Afternoon.

Post-Meridiam. The House met according to Adjournment, &c.

The House proceeded further on an Hearing of the Petition
 and Representation of the Freeholders of St. Mary's County; and
 on Consideration of the Allegations and Facts contained therein,
 the Question was put, Whether Mr. Edmund Key, a Member returned
 for St. Mary's County, be duly Elected a Delegate for the
 said County, or Not? Resolved in the Negative.

For the Affirmative,

Hynson,
 Waggaman,
 Wilson,
 Gray,

Sulivane,
 Govane,
 J. H. Dorsey,
 Cockey Deye,

Dulany,
 Bracco.