

apparently repugnant to experience as well as a rule too narrow and inconsistent with the Dignity of the Middle Branch of the Legislature to be admitted or suffered

U. H. J.
Liber No. 35
Dec. 20

3.^d Because of the Rights of Aliens acquired upon the most meritorious Considerations were to be destroyed impeached or brought into Hazards for the delusive Prospect of a temporary Increase of his Lordships Revenues, many Hundred Families of usefull industrious and well affected Subjects would be effectually Banished and others under their Circumstances Certainly prevented by Such a flagrant Violation of the Rules of good Faith and Justice from Settling here, to the real Demunion of his Lordships Revenue, the disgrace of his Government and the Impoverishment of his Province

4.th Because such a Bill (it having been the Subject of Deliberation and publick Debate) is now become Absolutely necessary to quiet the minds of the Alien Inhabitants who from their Ignorance of our Laws and Constitution a Consciousness of their Inability to manage Law suits with the Same Advantage that others can or a dread of Power might be intimidated into a surrender of their Rights upon the Issuing of escheat Warrants, or if this should not happen those who may be tempted by the Bait of Escheat warrants would be ensnared by the alluring Prospect of gain or Acts of Power the most dangerous in their Nature exercised to vindicate and Support these oppressive Escheats I cant Conceive that if the Case of an Alien patentee who has settled here in Consequence of Proclamations the strongest assurance of protection and Particular Instructions for his Encouragement, paid his Lordship his Stipulated Caution money, his Judges of the Land office for Issuing the Land Warrant, his Surveyor for executing the warrant his Examiner for passing the Certificate, his Judges of the Land office for makeing out the Patent & his Chanc.¹ for the seal, their respective fees and punctually rendered to his Lordship the reserved Quit Rents as his immediate Tenant, were stated in a special verdict any purchaser under an Escheat Patent could finally prevail (should the Aliens pretensions be effectually prosecuted) against such an Alien by a rigorous Determination contrary to the rules of Publick Faith, and the sacred Obligations of equity and Justice

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5.th Because if the principle upon which the Bill has been rejected, should be extended to similar Cases (and no reason can be assigned why it should not) it will become a rule not to give a passage through this House to any Bill securitative of the rights of the People as the Lord Proprietary might be affected in his Escheats in proportion to the utility and efficacy of such a Bill and thus one of the great ends of Legislature would be defeated and a Destruction pregnant with irreconcilable Enmity be established between his Lordships