Liber No. 52 Dec. 16

L. H. J. on the Subject but that we can form a tolerable Guess and support it from Probability We Suppose the Proprietary receives annually upw.ds of £900 Str on the Article of Tonnage that the Governor receives annually upwards of £200 Str on the same Article That the Proprietor receives on the 12.<sup>d</sup> p Hh.<sup>d</sup> annually upwards of £1400 Str and for Comon Law Fines and Act of Assembly Forfeitures granted for Support of Government annually upwards of £400 Currency and that the Provincial Amerciaments which as your Honours observe are to be applied as the Governor and Council shall direct Amount annually to upw.ds of 2500.lb of Tobo Suppose the People of this Province recognized the Right of Government in the strongest Manner to levy these Monies which has been long denied by those who have heretofore occupied the Station we are now placed in with the greatest Reputation and whose Memories are still dear to a grateful People yet we contend that the above mentioned Monies reced by the Proprietor as well as the Amerciaments subject to the Gov. and Council's Direction ought according to natural Justice and the well known Principles of our Constitution to be applied to defray the Expences of Government. We could wish with all our Hearts that the Argument you have been pleased to adduce from contemporary Practice and Exposition could be esteemed conclusive because as to the Tonnage some former Member of your House as well as ours rembred when the Record of the Act under which the Tonnage Duty is pretended to be collected mentioned that Duty to be granted for Fort Charges instead of Port Charges and that Fact stands evidenced by the most solemn and deliberate Act of the Legislature against a Record suspicious on the very Face of it to whose Assertions in Mres of Fact within their Knowledge Modesty requires at least an equal Acquiescence as in their Opinion on Political Rights: This Fact strengthened too by the Duty being laid on Powder and Shot excludes any Pretence that the Imposition was for a private Use and consequently this Act came under the Gen. Repealing Law of 1704 and could not possibly be excepted by the Saving of private Rights. If the 12.d p Hh.d is to be determined by the same Criterion the sev.1 Revenue Bills from 1716 to 1733 are so many deliberate Acts of the whole Legislature that tacitly deny the Existence of that Act and the Proprietary's not receiving the 12d pHh.d under the Act of 1704 for all that Time is as strong a Concession of the Expiration of that Act as the Allowance of a Salary to the Clk of the Council on the Journal is of the Salary not being intended within the Provision so that this Kind of Reasoning proves too much or too little for y." Purpose If it proves the Clk of the Council ought to have an Allowance in the Journal it proves the Repeal of the Tonnage Act and most effectually prove the Expiration of the Act of 1704 the Intention of making which is set out in the Preamble and shews the Baltimore Family had before that Time under the Pretext of