

greatest Part of the Trade and mercantile Business of the Planters, Farmers, and other Country People of the County is transacted there, as a regular and certain Market, where our Provisions, and every Thing we make, may at all Times find a ready Price, and to which the major Part of the People of the County already resort and trade, and others are daily more and more resorting from all Parts of our County; not only to sell their Plantation-Produce, but for the doing of most Sorts of Business; so that whoever might be obliged to attend the Courts, would at the same Time be in the Way of negotiating their common Concerns; their Attendance on the Public Service would be rendered easy and light, and regularly and cheerfully given, and none of the said Inconveniences attending the present County-Duty would be felt: And that although the Town of Baltimore should be found not so central as Joppa, we humbly apprehend it cannot be an essential Objection of Inconveniency, especially as we have the Example and Experience of our neighbouring Colonies and of most of the Countries in the World to assure us of how little Weight such an Objection has always been held, when opposed to even much less Advantages than are above enumerated.

When these Considerations, may it please Your Excellency and Honors, are weighed, we humbly hope, and we also pray Your Excellency and Honors will be pleasead to pass a Law for Disposing of the Ground and Materials of the present Court-House and Prison of this County, and for the Purchasing Ground, and Building a Court-House and Prison, for the said County, in the Town of Baltimore aforesaid, for the Courts for the said County to be held in the said Court-House, and that the same be made staunch and convenient, and well constructed against the Danger of Fire, as to Your Excellency and Honors shall seem meet.

For which Your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

An Seine Excellenz Horatio Scharpe, Esqueir, Governör und Oberst-Befehlshaber in und über die Provinz Maryland, und An die Großachtbaren Obere und Untere Häuser der Assembly der besagten Provinz:

Die Bittschrift der Unterschriebenen, Einwohner von Baltimore County, Welche demüthig anzeigt,

Daß das jetzige Courthaus für Baltimore County, welches in Joppa liegt, viel zu klein ist die Geschäfte der County mit Bequemlichkeit darin zu verrichten, indem es das kleinste in der ganzen Provinz ist: Daß selbiges sehr haufällig ist, und die Zimmer dermassen eingeschränkt sind, daß die Schriften nicht in genugsamer Ordnung darin können gestellet werden; und das ganze Gebäu ist schlecht und unsicher um Publike Urkunden darin zu verwahren, (von welchen die liegenden Güter Seiner Majestät Unterthanen in dieser County, und anderswo, abhängen) wodurch, und