

*B. PETITIONS AGAINST REMOVAL OF THE
COUNTY SEAT*

[THE FOLLOWING NINE PETITIONS, ENTIRELY IN MANUSCRIPT, HAVE EACH THE SAME PHRASEOLOGY. THE TOTAL SIGNATURES NUMBER 901. THE FIRST SEVEN ARE IN THE SAME HANDWRITING; THE LAST TWO IN A DIFFERENT HAND. THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN FASTENED TOGETHER FOR MANY YEARS. THEY ARE NOT NUMBERED, BUT FOR CONVENIENCE ARE GIVEN ROMAN NUMBERS HERE.]

[Petition 1]

Maryland
Historical
Society

To his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq.^r Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland, and is the Honour,^{ble} the Upper and lower Houses, of Assembly of the Said Province.

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of Baltemore County for and in behalf of themselves and others.

Humbly Sheweth.

That the Court House at Joppa; is large and Commodious enough at present to Contain with Convenience all the Suitors Jurymen Witnesses and others resorting to said Court and is larger than many Court Houses in the said Province and the Offices therein large and Convenient, enough for the purpose of Transacting the Public Business.

That the said buildings being at present out of repair arises from the Interested Views of a part of the Inhabitants of said County in or near Baltemore Town who by violence at a late and former Elections have Torn damaged and Defaced the same, with a design of Destroying the same, and thereby paving a Way for a removall to Baltimore Town

That the said Court House is sorrounded on every Side with Houses in said Town and is nearly in the Center thereof and that any Malicious attempt to destroy the same will stand as fair a Chance of being Discovered timely enough to prevent the same as that of any other Court House in the Province.

That the Road leading over the Isthmus to said Town not being bad above one hundred yards in length may be made and kept good at a very Trifling Expence.

That the Goal is built with Stone and may be made as strong as any other stone House and that the Expence of inclosing a yard for the Convenience of Prisoners enjoying the Benefit of free Air & Exercise and thereby preventing Sickness among them will be attended with no more Expence at Joppa than at Baltemore Town or Else where