

Resolved, unanimously, That the Representatives of the ffreeman of this Province have the sole Right with the Assent of the other Part of the Legislature to impose and establish Taxes or ffees; and that the imposing, establishing, or collecting, any Taxes, or ffees, on or from the Inhabitants of this Province under Colour, or Pre- tence of any Proclamation issued by, or in the Name of the Lord Proprietary, or other Authority, is arbitrary, unconstitutional, and oppressive—

L. H. J.
Liber No. 54
Nov. 1

Resolved, unanimously, That in all Cases where no ffees are estab- lished by Law for Services done by Officers the Power of ascertaining the Quantum of the Reward for such Services is constitutionally in a Jury upon the Action of the Party.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Notes taken by William Steuart, Clerk of the Land Office, from William Hamlin, Thomas Elliott, and John Brooker Meek, are illegal and void; and the ffees intended thereby to be secured, are excessive and not warranted by Law.

Resolved, unanimously, That the imposing any Oath, not ap- pointed and required by Law, is illegal and of dangerous Tendency.

Ordered, That the said Resolves, with the Report, be immediately printed in the Maryland Gazette

Ordered, That the Serjeant at Arms, attending this House, do forthwith take into his Custody the Body of William Steuart, and have him immediately at the Bar of this House, to answer at the Bar of this House for taking Notes of Hand for the Payment of excessive ffees in the said Office, not warranted by Law; and also for imposing an Oath not appointed and required by Law.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a Bill for the Relief of certain languishing Prisoners in the several Jails therein mentioned. p. 139

Ordered, That M.^r Chase, M.^r Ringgold, and M.^r Aquila Hall do prepare and bring in the same

M.^r Chase brings in, and delivers to M.^r Speaker a Bill, entitled, An Act for the Relief of certain languishing Prisoners in the several Jails therein mentioned. Which was read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table.

Walter Dulany, Esquire, from the Upper House, delivers to M.^r Speaker, the Bill, entitled, An Act directing the Sale of Part of the Lands of Henry Baker, late of Cæcil County, deceased, for the Payment of the Debts of the said Henry Baker, thus indorsed “By the Upper House of Assembly October 31 :st 1770 Read the first Time and ordered to lie on the Table—

Signed by Order U Scott Cl. Up. Ho.”

And thus “By the Upper House of Assembly October 31 :st 1770 Read the second Time by an especial Order and will pass

Signed by Order U Scott Cl. Up. Ho.”