

L. H. J. are Attempts, may it please your Excellency, which, as Guardians
 Liber No. 54 of publick Liberty, we are indispensably obliged to take Notice of,
 Nov. 8 and to suppress in their very Beginnings: They are such a Violation
 of the Law, such an Invasion of the Right of the Subject, as cannot
 be submitted to by a free People.

The Proprietor has no Right, Sir, either by himself, or with the
 Advice of his Council, to establish or regulate the fees of Office; and
 could we persuade ourselves, that you could possibly entertain a differ-
 ent Opinion, we should be bold to tell your Excellency, that the
 People of this Province ever will oppose the Usurpation of such a
 Right

We will not suppose that your Excellency had any Knowledge of
 or could possibly countenance these Transactions; and, therefore, we
 can with the greater freedom remonstrate against the Conduct of
 the Honourable Benedict Calvert and George Steuart, Esq.^{rs}, who
 have thus daringly insulted the whole Legislature at that Time as-
 sembled for the very Purpose of regulating Officers fees, by attempt-
 ing to introduce a Regulation of fees by Proclamation; a Measure
 odious to the whole Province, to those, especially, who can remember
 the Time when the illegal Project was first set on foot. We are
 persuaded that your Excellency will, upon every Occasion, pay a due
 Regard to our Constitutional Rights; and as we cannot but view
 these Proceedings of the Registers of the Land Office as very high
 Misdemeanors, and have thought it our Duty to remonstrate against
 them, we will not entertain a Doubt but that your Excellency, upon
 this Information of the representative Body, will also consider them
 as great Infringements of the Rights of the People, and will imme-
 diately call those Officers before you, and signify your Displeasure
 at, and Disapprobation of, their Conduct, and it is our Request that,
 upon a Repetition of the Offence, your Excellency will, without Hes-
 itation, displace them from their Office. The imposing an Oath
 without the Authority of Law is an Offence so arbitrary and danger-
 ous in its Nature, that we shall submit to your Excellency, how
 prudent it may be to continue M.^r William Steuart in the Magistracy.

p. 150 [151] Which was read and assented to and signed by Order of the House
 by the Honourable Speaker

Ordered, That M.^r Smallwood and M.^r Wootton do acquaint his
 Excellency, that this House hath prepared an Address to be pre-
 sented to him, and desires to know when and where he will be pleased
 to receive it. They return, and acquaint M.^r Speaker, that the Gov-
 ernor signified he would receive the Address immediately in the
 Council Chamber

Ordered, That M.^r Speaker, attended by the whole House, do
 present the Address to his Excellency. M.^r Speaker, upon his Return,
 reports, that he delivered the Address to his Excellency.