

L. H. J. Tobacco per Side, the then established Allowance for recording  
 Liber No. 54 would have cost more than treble his Charge. We must also remind  
 Nov. 16 your Honours, that in Consequence of the same Contract with M.<sup>r</sup>  
 p. 173 Duckett, he was paid a Sum of Money for transcribing the Journal  
 of this House from 1692 to 1715, by an Ordinance of both Houses,  
 in May Session 1768, in which a Sum of Money granted to the late  
 Governor was included. These Considerations will, we doubt not,  
 evince to your Honours the Justice of M.<sup>r</sup> Duckett's Claim to an  
 immediate Payment, and be sufficient to prevail on you to pass  
 the Bill

We beg Permission also to remind your Honours, that our Journal  
 of Accounts, sent up for your Assent only, early in the last Session,  
 was not returned to us, when, by your Advice, as his Lordship's  
 Council of State, the late Prorogation happened, and by that Means  
 we have been deprived, this Session, of an Opportunity of making  
 such Additions thereto, and of adjusting the publick Claims in such  
 Manner as we should esteem just and proper.

Signed by Order. Jn.<sup>o</sup> Duckett Cl. Lo. Ho.

Which was read and ordered to lie on the Table

M.<sup>r</sup> W. Paca brings in, and delivers to M.<sup>r</sup> Speaker the following  
 ingrossed Address

To his Excellency Robert Eden, Esq; Governor and Commander in  
 Chief in and over the Province of Maryland

The humble Address of the House of Delegates

May it please your Excellency

We find, by Reports of the Committee appointed to inspect into  
 the State of the several publick Offices, in every Session since the  
 Year Seventeen hundred and sixty six, down to the last, Copies of  
 which we herewith present to your Excellency, that there are many  
 Errors, and Omissions in the Commissary's and Land Office, and a  
 Neglect in not making up the Records of Judgments for several years,  
 in the Secretary's Office, and some of the Alphabets and Record Books  
 much out of Repair, both in the Commissary's and Land Office; and  
 that there are two Bundles of Wills and Inventories, exhibited in  
 seventeen hundred and fifty nine, and seventeen hundred and sixty,  
 in the Commissary's Office not yet recorded. The evil Consequence  
 of Negligence or Remissness in the Execution of publick Offices, the  
 Records of which are almost the only Evidence of Property in this  
 Province, are but too obvious. We therefore hope your Excellency  
 will use your utmost Influence, to have the Errors, Omissions and  
 Damages which have happened, rectified, supplied and repaired, as  
 far as can be; and also, that there be a more exact Discharge of Duty  
 by Gentlemen who enjoy such publick Offices.

The Law directs Bonds to be given, in large Penalties, by those