

L. H. J. The Petition of Alexander Symmer was read the first and second
Liber No. 54 Time and rejected
Nov. 22

Benedict Calvert Esq.^r from the Upper House delivers to M.^r Speaker the Paper Bills N.^o 29, 30 severally indorsed “By the Upper House of Assembly November 22.^d 1771. The ingrossed Bill whereof this is the Original read and assented to

Signed by Order U Scott Cl. Up. Ho.”

And the Bill entitled An Act to empower Jane Ridgely Exx of Nicholas Greenberry Ridgely late of Ann Arundel County deceased to convey the Land therein mentioned thus indorsed “By the Upper House of Assembly Nov.^r 22.^d 1771 Read the first and second Time by an especial Order and will pass

Signed by Order U Scott Cl Up. Ho”

Which last mentioned Bill was read here and passed for ingrossing M.^r Paca brings in and delivers to M.^r Speaker the following ingrossed Address

To his Excellency Robert Eden Esq.^r Governor of Maryland
The humble Address of the House of Delegates

May it please your Excellency,

p. 267 Our indispensable Duty to check the Exercise of such Powers as are incompatible with the permanent Security of Property, and the constitutional Liberty of the Subject has constrained us in the Course of this Session to take into our Consideration your Excellency’s Proclamation of the 26.th Day of November last relative to Officers fees and the Instruction of the 24.th Day of the same Month under the great Seal ascertaining the fees of the Land Office and on the most sedate Reflection we have come into several Resolutions Copies of which we now beg Leave to lay before you.

The like Proclamation published in the Year 1733 agitated and disjointed this Province till the Year 1747 and the Evils which were thereby occasioned ought strongly to have dissuaded from any Attempt again to exercise such Power. When from some Proceedings in the Land Office in the Time of the last Assembly the late Lower House were apprehensive that Government entertained a Design in Case the several Branches of the Legislature should not agree in the Regulation of Officers fees to attempt establishing them by Proclamation, they, in an Address to your Excellency, asserted “the Proprietary 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 you could possibly entertain a different Opinion we should be bold to tell your Excellency that the People of this Province ever will oppose the Usurpation of such Right”; to which your Excellency was pleased to answer in your Message of the 20.th Day of November “that his Lordship’s Authority had not yet inter-