

L. H. J.
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and Ministers for what Cause soever, and with what Power soever, and in such fform as to him and his Heirs should seem most convenient, and to do all and every other Thing which unto the complete Establishment of Justice, Courts, Tribunals, and fforms of Judicature and Manner of Proceedings do belong, tho' in these Presents express Mention be not made thereof.

Argument would be unnecessary to prove, that if the royal Pre-rogative could settle the ffees of Officers in the Plantations, the same Authority was granted to Lord Baltimore in this Province and that the declaration Clause in the Charter "so that the same Ordinances do not in any Sort extend to oblige, bind, charge, or take away, the Right or Interest of any Person or Persons, of or in Member, Life, ffreehold, Goods or Chattels," contains no Restriction more than would have resulted by Operation of Law, nor renders his Lordship's Prerogative here, less forcible than the Royal in the other Colonies.

Between 1633 and 1637, the Officers appointed by Lord Baltimore, or his Governor, were authorized by their Commissions to demand and receive such ffees as were usually paid in England or Virginia for similar Services.

In the Year 1642 a Table of ffees was settled, and published by the Governor and Council

In the Year 1676 An Act passed for Limitation of Officers ffees, but before this Act was framed, the Lower House were acquainted in a Message from the Upper, that the List of Chancellor's ffees was settled by the then late Lord Proprietary, and his present Lordship would not consent to any Act for settling the same, it being his Pre-rogative; but that the List might be recorded in the Journals of the House; whereupon the Lower House voted, that they desire [not] to intrench on his Lordship's Prerogative, but all they aimed at was, that the Inhabitants might *certainly* know what ffees they were to pay, and since nothing could be more reasonable than that the same should be settled and published, they humbly requested his Lordship to ascertain the ffees of all his Officers, and that fair Lists thereof might be drawn out with his Lordship's Assent, and two Copies thereof sent to the respective County Courts to be published and recorded, and that an Act might be drawn up for the fining of every Officer exceeding the same

Pursuant to this perpetual Act of 1676 passed, with the following Proviso, "if any ffees for any Matter or Thing to be done, belonging to the several Offices, and by the Lord Proprietary or his Governor so allowed and adjudged, and not in this Act mentioned, then it shall be lawful to have and receive such ffees as the Lord Proprietary and Council shall allow, and no more."

p. 297 In June 1692, An Act for repealing the Laws theretofore passed, was enacted. In the same Assembly a temporary Act for Three Years, for Limitation of Officers ffees, passed with the same Proviso