

U. H. J.
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It has been found in England that Fees settled by a Stat: of Henry the Eighth in some Testamentary Cases, notwithstanding the Subsequent increase of Business, have become so inadequate, from the Depreciation of Money and the Augmentation of every Expense, that practice and Allowance have established an Addition to them.

Th'o we have been at the trouble of shewing you at large that your Construction of our Proposition is repugnant to our Meaning yet to prevent any possible Impression being taken that the Passage of the Bill failed because our Proposition extended to "all" Officers, we think it necessary most explicitly to declare that we desire the Proposition may be understood to relate to the Commissary General only.

You say that the Governors Message in respect of the Clergy had determined our Action, th'o it does not seem to have convinced our Understanding. The little smartness of this remark does not atone for the Injustice and Rudeness of it, as every one must Perceive, who may happen to peruse our propositions, to which we take the Liberty to add that, however offensive his Excellency the present Governors Tenderness on the Affair of the Clergys Freeholds may be to you, in the Year 1739, when Governor Ogle proposed the Forty Per poll should be discharged in Paper Money at Ten Shillings Per Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, the Lower House Expressed themselves on the Subject in the following Terms, "This House is not acquainted with the Disposition of the Clergy in Point of their Forty Per Poll, and shall always have a just Regard to that Reverend Body, nor attempt to intrude any Terms on them which may not Suit their Inclinations to accept of; but shall always be ready and willing to receive such proposals as they may judge suitable to make." Nor was this Sentiment of the Lower House in 1739 peculiar, for in all Bills for the Division of Parishes care has been taken not to affect the Incumbent in his Rights of Freehold without his Consent.

You hoped as we could get nothing by acting "contrarily," for our united Efforts to obtain the Relief of the People by a new Regulation of the Clergys dues. Whatever general Relief might arise from a new Establishment, we, and our Connexions would equally partake of with others, but Relief is not to be gained by intemperate Exertions, and imprudent perseverance. Every practicable Method of Relief we could think of we have proposed and you have rejected.

Had your Invention struck out any other than has occurred to us we should have Examined it with Candour and adopted it if worthy of Adoption with Alacrity. Your Bill indeed has proposed a Method, but you have found it to be unattainable, and is it the part of Discretion to lose what you may get when you can have no Prospect of obtaining what you wished to accomplish? We should have no Objection to the Continuance of a new Regulation of the Clergy accord-