

there, from whom it was to be levied & collected by the Sheriff & paid to the Minister; amounting to about 2:8 p. ann: for each taxable person.

And which Allowance (upon the best computation that can be made) did not amount to near a 20th part of the Tobacco ^{which} grows there, & the Clergy have no Tithe or Allowance out of any other commodity, nor had they any House or ~~place~~ appointed for them by that Act, but were yearly to pay 1000 pounds of Tobacco to the Clerk of each parish out of their said Allowance.

That the Clergy continued to receive their said Allowance in manner as appointed by the Act, until abt. Apr: 1715, when the Assembly of Maryland pass an Act that the Sheriff might deduct 5 p. Ct. for collecting & paying y^e said Allowance of 40 p. mill.

The last mentioned Act therefore, was a hardship upon the Clergy, w^{ch} however their low circumstances & small Incomes obliged them to lay still under, as they were unable to seek relief here, at so remote a Distance, & great Expence as the affair might require.

That this first Step being gain'd upon the Clergy, the next intended Step went a great deal farther, for at the Assembly held in Octbr: 1728, the Assembly thought proper to pass an Act for improving their Staple of Tobacco, by the methods therein proposed.

But in that Act of so general a Nature & Concern there were inserted Causes (upon Supposition, before Trial, that the methods they proposed w^o produce the effects intended, & w^o certainly improve the Staple) whereby the Taxable persons, if they paid the Clergy in Tobacco were to pay the $\frac{3}{4}$ for the whole, & had their Option whether to pay that manner, in Tobacco, or to pay for the tobacco