

this Province and sent to Europe as the Product of Maryland; thus our good Tobacco improved the Credit of the Virginia Staple, and the Refuse of the Virginia Tobacco depreciated ours, and we make no doubt but that the same pernicious Practice would be revised should your Lordships dissent to the present Inspection Act.

By the Inspection Act a fastinum Remedium is given to the Officer if the Debtor Refuses or omits to pay in a convenient Time after delivery by the Sheriff of an account of the claim, his Effects are liable to be Seized and sold to make Satisfaction, and his Person to imprisonment in the same manner as upon an actual judgment at Law - the Officer has all possible Security of being paid in Merchantable Tobacco and at a place convenient for Shipping, By the Inspection Act there is a great defalcation of the Proclamation fees, But the Officer upon the whole is indubitably a Gainer

We might have represented to your Lordships how much the Interest of your Propriety is connected with the base welfare and Prosperity of your Tenants and consequently with this Act, But the Impropriety of the Clauses objected to by your Lordships are such, as your Lordships Noble & Generous Inclinations to make the People under your Government happy, cannot suggest an Extenuation of them, We are convinced it would be vain and fruitless to urge any other Motives to reconcile your Lordships to the Law.

We have reason to fear that we have tired your Lordships Patience with this long Representation and most humbly intreat your Lordships to Pardon the manner & Diligency of it, as well as the Earnestness We have expressed for the Continuance of this Act, so interesting, important, & necessary, The best Apology we can make for the Trouble We have given your Lordships in this Address is to tell the Plain fact. We were irresistibly prompted to it by a Conviction of the certain & extensive Utility of the Inspection Act - by our dread of the unhappy Confusion, and infinite distress the Loss of it would produce, by our Gratitude for the favours by which your Lordships and your late Noble Father have distinguished us, and by our Zeal to promote your Lordships most important Interests. Upon our Motive in the Application, we rely for your Lordships Pardon, and from your Lordships Goodness, we hope for Success.
Benj^r Tasher Secy

At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Thursday the 29th day of May in the fifth Year of his Lordships Dominion Annoque Domini 1755.

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor
The honourable { Benjamin Tasher Esq^r } Jos Benjamin Tasher
 { Jos Edward Lloyd } Jos William Goldborough

Ordered that the following Proclamation issue
By his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor and
Commander in Chief in & over the Province of Maryland