

Commissions to demand and receive such fees as were usually paid in England or Virginia for similar services.

In the year 1642 a Table of fees was settled and published by the Governor & Council of the Province.

In the year 1676 a perpetual Act passed for Limitation of Officers fees but before the said Act was framed the Lower House of Assembly were acquainted in a Message from the Upper that the list of Chancellors fees was settled by the then late Proprietary and his <sup>precept,</sup> Lordship would not consent to an Act for settling the same it being his Prerogative but that the list might be recorded in the Journals of the House whereupon the Lower House voted that they did not desire to intrench on his Lordships Prerogative but all they aimed at was that the Inhabitants might certainly know what fees 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 fees of all his Officers and that fair Lists thereof might be drawn out with his Lordships Assent and true Copies thereof be sent to the respective County Courts to be published and recorded and an Act framed for fining every Officer exceeding the same.

In the Act of 1676 was the following Proviso "If any fees for any matter or thing to be done belonging to the several Offices and by the Lord Proprietary or his Governor so allowed & adjudged and not in this Act mentioned then it shall be lawful to receive such fees as the Lord Proprietary and Council shall allow and no more."

In June 1692 a General repealing Act passed in the same Assembly a Temporary Act for three years passed for Limitation of Officers fees with the same Proviso as was contained as aforesaid in the Act of 1676 and so from Time to Time from 1692 to 1725 except for a very short Interval

In the year 1692 when the Government of the Province was assumed by the Crown Mr. Copley was appointed Governor and was empowered by his Commission and Instructions from the Crown to settle with the Council the fees of Officers. —