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at which time an Act was made for granting the late Lord Baltimore a certain
Duty on every Hhd of Tob: exported as an Equivalent for & in lieu of all Quit Rents
& Alienation Fines payable to His Ldp by the Landholders in this Province & such
Equivalent did the late Lord Proprietary continue to receive till the End of the Year
1733, when he was pleased to give Orders that the Quit Rents & Alienation Fines should
be from that time demanded & received from each & every Tenant in the manner
that hath been since pursued. The late Mr Dulany having in the Year 1742 or
thereabouts told the Ld Perry that he thought His Ldp had by the Tenor of the Patent
a Right to an Alienation Fine for every Tract of Land which should come to
the possession of Heirs or Devises, an Instruction was thereupon given to the Agents
to demand & collect such Fines & to compel all Heirs & Devises to make due Payment
but upon the people's exclaiming against such Instruction as a most grievous Oppres-
sion & refusing Payment, His Ldp thought fit to countermand the abovementioned
Instruction & in order to quiet the Minds of the People he likewise directed Mr
Bladen to issue the following Proclamation. "Maryland &c. By His Excellency
Thomas Bladen Esq: Governor & Commander in Chief in & over the Province of
Maryland a Proclamation. Whereas some Uneasinesses have arisen concerning
the Right of His Ldp the Ld Perry to Alienation Fines on Devises of Lands
& that His Ldp desirous to shew his Readiness to give his Tenants Ease & Satis-
faction in whatever may be thought reasonable in any Degree tho' to the Dimi-
nution of his own strictly legal Rights hath been pleased to direct Orders should
be given to His Agent & the several Receivers of his Quit Rents not to insist on
or receive from any Person whatsoever any Fine or Fines on or for any Lands
which have been or shall be alienated by Devise, to the End His Ldps pleasure
may be known & that all persons concerned may have due Notice thereof I have
thought fit by & with the Advice of His Ldps Council of State to issue this my
Proclamation strictly charging & requiring the several Sheriffs of this Province to
make this my Proclamation publick in their respective Counties in the usual