

72. 18
In Council September 26. 1789

Gentlemen, We have given your letter by Mr. Wailes
the best consideration ^{that} we are capable of, and offer it as
our advice that you continue to hold the Court of Prince
George's County as if the omission to take the oath of
support to the General Government had not happened -
We do not mistake to determine that your Proceedings
have not been vitiated by this circumstance, but as we
know of no Instance under the State Governments in
which the Omission of a legal formality by a public body
86. has not been either passed over, or its consequences correct-
ed by Legislative authority, we cannot doubt that the
Congress of the United States will on application (which
it shall be our care to make if necessary) pass an
act to confirm your proceedings - as it will be re-
presented to them that the failure in question must
have arisen from the uniform practice of our Magistrates
taking their Official Oaths no otherwise than in Court,
without ~~which~~ ^{which} violation of usage the direction of the act
could not have been complied with - We cannot at pre-
sent issue a new Commission, as there is no Chancellor
to witness and affix the Seal to it

The Justices of Prince
George's County Court

We are Sir
J. E. Howard

In Council September 26. 1789.

87. Gentlemen, It is with concern that we inform you

(that)