

of the Freeman of this Province not to have any fees imposed or extorted from them but by their own Consent in Assembly, And this they have Unanimously & did in their House to be their undoubted right, backed by Magna Charta, His Excellency's Instructions in that particular read to them authorizing him with his Council to regulate the Officers fees in this Province, they recite several Statutes of England showing the Settlement of all fees to be by Act of Parliament To which is answered that it is the Governor and Council doe not take upon them, nor is it intended, settle or new found fees of themselves, but his Excellency, where occasion shall be for the ease and Satisfaction of the People and for their relief against Oppression, may and hath power with the Advice of his Council to regulate and moderate those fees already settled or hereafter to be appointed as he shall see fit and convenient: they say that such Provision will be made for that in another Act now preparing for Officers fees, as they could not will give his Excellency full Satisfaction in that point —

His Excellency proposes to them the making indefinite and not temporary what Laws they shall think fit to make as good and wholesome for the Inhabitants and their good Government, thereby to save the Charge of Assembly meeting on purpose to revive those Laws, and if at any time hereafter any of them become Obsolete or grievous they may be repealed and made void. To which they answer that they have sufficiently experienced the ill consequence of perpetual Laws so called as to give them Cause of being too forward in passing too many of that kind — again; But for what Bills are preparing now, if his Excellency shall not think fit or safe for him to pass them as they are drawn, and shall please to signify his reasons therefore to the house, they will endeavour to give him Satisfaction therein & Comply with any thing reasonable —

X The Act for marking high ways & they consent to impose a Penalty on the Overseers for their Defect as desired —

Recommended to them the making of a Law in favour of Negroes & Slaves to prevent the Barbarous Tyrannical and Inhumane usage of them as is too much practised by some People here, they consent thereto and will accordingly provide by a Law Declarative of the Laws of England in such like Cases —

They desire and move that the Enacting part of all the Laws now to be passed may according to the Precedent and Example of all our Neighbouring Colonies be done by His and Her most Excellent Majesties by and with the Advice and Consent of this present General Assembly & which is approved of and consented to by the Board —

The Act restraining the unreasonable Increase of Horses & the reasonable time for their cutting ought to be ascertained, and not left in Doubt full Terms, they desire that to his Excellency to prefix the time when to be cut, and then as for their Stables the same to be adjudged by the next Magistrate —

Proposed to them the preparing a Law for securing their Majesties Debts fines and forfeitures; they concur therewith and will provide for the same as formerly hath been for the Lord Proprietary, The Conference breaks up —

The Act against Hogstealers & read the 3. time here —

The Act for more Speedy bringing to Trial & suppressing Criminals read here 2. a