

to first obtain from their Majesties the satisfaction to be conducted in  
for your Majesty's service in the same way you shall be humbly by your  
for the freedom of putting your Excellency in mind of a matter which may  
know is your chiefest care to preserve  
I shall be proud to serve you

By the Assembly October the 11<sup>th</sup> 1694

This House have read and considered of the petitions and reasons of the Mayor  
Aldermen and others calling themselves Common Council and freemen of the  
City of Saint Marys against removing the Courts and Assemblies from this barren  
and poorest place of the Province to the Center and best Abitaded place thereof  
though we conceive the motives there laid down are hardly deserving any answer  
at all many of them being against the plain matter some against the reason and  
all against the general good and welfare of the Province yet because your Excellency  
has been pleased to lay them before us we humbly return this our sense of the same  
that 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. & 8 Reasons relating to what his Lordship has thought was  
thought fit to do to the City of Saint Marys it is no Rule nor guide to their Majesties  
Your Excellency nor this House it seems in some part to reflect on his Lordship  
more than this House believes is true or deserved by his Lordship

2 As to the 9 this House say that it is against the plain Matter of fact for we  
can discern no Estate either laid out or layout in or about this famous City Com-  
parable with other parts of this Province but they say and make it appear that  
there has been more money spent hereby three degrees or more than this City  
and all the Inhabitants for ten miles round is worth and say that having had  
sixty odd Years Experience of this place and almost a quarter part of the Province  
debauched by wind still like the other 10 in remain as at first they are discouraged  
to add any more of their substance to such ill Improvers

As to the 10 & 11 we conceive the being of Saint Marys so near Virginia is  
not so great an advantage to the Province as the placing the Courts in the Center  
and richest part of the same which is no great distance from the river or Virginia  
either And nearer New York and other Governments which we have as much  
to do with as Virginia if not more and the place as well watered and as com-  
modious in all respects as Saint Marys which has only served hitherto to cast  
a Blemish upon all the rest of the Province in the Judgment of all discerning  
Strangers who perceiving the meanness of the head must rationally judge of the  
reasonably of the Body thereby

To the 12. 13 & 14 they say that they do not hold themselves answerable  
to the Mayor and his Brethren for what they do for their reasons since we  
by what Measures they do the same nor what time they shall do it or for  
what reasons and are and will be as careful of the Records and proceedings of