

Upon the latter Part of your Message about several Merchants keeping Stores not in Towns under Protonotary of his Excellency having given them Leave so to do, his Excellency is pleased to say he never gave any such Leave but that on the Application of Capt John Darnall the Council with the Assistance of two of the Justices of the Provincial Court had given the Opinion herewith sent you which is no Dispensation with the Laws for Towns

As for several Presentments made at the Offices of several Merchants on that Score the Attorney General says he never heard of any but one at Salisbury County against Captain John Jefferson of Holkoyde in Great Britain who was the first Trader here from that Part of the Kingdom lately called Scotland and was generally presented for not keeping Store at Town according to Law, to which his Excuse was that there were no Store-Houses at Port St. George's where he lay and the Presentment being too general was conceived improper. And no particular Information of what Goods he sold being the Attorney General by any particular Person was the Occasion he did not exhibit an Information against him

Signed & Order W. Bladen Secy

The Honble Philip Lynes, Esq; from the Council enters the House & delivers Mr. Speaker the Opinion of the Governor and Council touching Merchants keeping Stores at Towns mentioned in the foregoing Message

Ordered the said Message be read in a full House to Morrow Morning  
Committee of Laws enter the House and deliver Mr. Speaker the following Bills  
Bill confirming and explaining the Charter granted to the City of Annapolis  
Bill reviving the Act imposing 3<sup>d</sup> of Hoghead on Tobacco for defraying the publick Charge of the Country

Bill repealing the Act prohibiting the Importation of Broad Beer &c

Bill reviving the Act ascertaining the Height of Towers

Bill reviving the Act for Limitation of Officers Fees

Bill reviving an Act laying an Imposition of 3<sup>d</sup> of Gallon on Rum, Wine, Brandy, Spirits and 20<sup>th</sup> of Head on Negroes and Irish Servants for defraying the publick Charge of the Province &c

All which said Bills were severally read and ordered to be severally introduced By the House of Delegates. Read the first Time Signed & Order

Rich<sup>d</sup>. Dallam Secy. Ho. Del.

Bill for Relief of Debtors and languishing Prisoners. Read and ordered to be introduced By the House of Delegates 13<sup>th</sup> December 1700 Read the second Time & will pass

Signed & Order Rich<sup>d</sup>. Dallam Secy. Ho. Del.

The seven foregoing Bills sent up to the Council for their concurrence by Mr. Hemley and Mr. Robins. They return and say they delivered the Bills