

of Trust and Prof^t especially the Sheriff's Office have been of late sold to such Persons as would give most Money in Tobacco for them, whereby several Persons have been compassioned that are very incapable and not qualified and of too mean Capacity and Estate to execute and perform their Duty and Office and the Inhabitants thereby much aggrieved and oppressed and very slender Security given for performing their Office whereby great Losses have and are likely to happen to her Majesty's Subjects within this Province. It is also Reported to and Resolved by this House as an Aggravation that the Provincial Court hath Jurisdiction over so small Sums whereby all Actions are almost brought there where the Charge very often exceeds the Debt in Demand and is of great Trouble Charge and Fatigue to the Suits both Plaintiff and Defendant and many Times occasions the Plaintiff to lose both his Debt & Cost and perpetual Imprisonment of the Defendant's Body or Ruin of his whole Estate. All which said last Aggravations this House humbly desires her Majesty's Honble Council to join with them in redressing and that the Honble Council will join some of their Board with some of the Members of this House in a Conference to consider of the Ways and Means to redress the same and of the Method and Manner of settling the Courts of Judicature and their Jurisdictions with the Manner of their Proceedings and the Qualifications of their Officers.

Signed by Order
W. Bayland C. Secy.

Which being read and approved of was sent up to the Honble Council of Colo Walter Smith, Mr John Whittington Mr Robert Tyler Mr Daniel Marantoo, Mr Thomas Hrisby and Mr Thomas Robins. They return and say they delivered their Message. The Petition of Richard Howellin Read and rejected. Colo Coursoy and Colo Whittington enter the House and deliver Mr Speaker the following Message viz^t By the Council in Assembly November 2^d 1709

The Right Honble the Lords of Trade and Plantations having received the Lord Baltimore's Objections to the Act requiring his Agents to certify into the Secretary's Office the Instructions and Conditions of Plantations with the Fees for them demanded and obliging his Lordship's Deputy Surveyors to qualify themselves according to Law have desired to be informed of the Reasons for passing the said Act. And what other Observations may be necessary thereupon We desire therefore you will take the same into Consideration and make such Observations thereon for their Lordship's better Satisfaction as you shall think fit Signed by Order W. Bladen C. Secy.

Was here read and Ordered a further Consideration

The Petitions of some Inhabitants of Choctank River praying a Town at Parker's Landing in Talbot County Read and debated It's put to the Question whether Leave be given to bring in a Bill or not? Carried in the Affirmative and Resolved a Bill be brought in for erecting a Town as prayed to contain 25 Acres of Land

Mr Hill's Petition praying an Allowance of fifty Pounds Put to the Question Whether the Money be allowed and paid now or referred till next Session? Carried by Majority of Votes that it be referred till next Session and then to be further considered