

March Court before the Sheriff. Some require should nominate two or three for
for Sheriffs out of which the Governor and Council should appoint one for Sheriff
We further humbly represent to the House that those 2 seem to be the only Ag-
-grievances amongst all that were then offered that now require Redress both which
we are of Opinion are free Aggrievances to the Province And it is further offered
as an Aggrievance to this Committee that for want of an effectual Redress
of that which relates to the Sheriffs who are as it were the several Counties
Treasurers and on whose Credit and good Behaviour depends the Credit and
Interest of all those that sit in publick Stations as well as of all the other Inha-
-bitants and which therefore calls for a most speedy and effectual Redress—
There have happened very great Burthens and Inconveniences to many of the
Counties in this Province and particularly to Ann Arundel County from whom
it has been offered that the present Sheriff has farmed or made over the Office
of his Office contrary to the Form of the Statutes of England in such Cases pro-
-vided. That he is slack and very dilatory in Payments and refuses to accept
Notes drawn upon him by those that have publick Allowances in his Hands
unless he has a Salary or Gratuity for so doing which no other Sheriff in
Maryland has ever yet been known to scruple and has generally made those
concerned with him for Tobacco so uneasy in his Payments that the Price of all
publick or County Allowances of Tobacco in his Hands has been much lessened
to the great Damage of all the Inhabitants especially of the poor Conspicuous
That tho' the Act of Assembly limits the Continuance of Sheriffs for 3 Years
and no longer yet by such clandestine secret underhand Practices the same
Person continues Sheriff in all Respects but Title for many Years together and
by that means continues his Misdeeds to the People— All which Things we
find tend very much to the lessening the publick Credit and the Esteem of Tobacco
and amount to a great Aggrievance— And we further humbly offer that
those Things which have been so long Time found Aggrievances and yet remain
undressed cannot be otherwise than such now and that therefore some Redress
ought to be sought To all which foregoing Promises we refer for the
House for their Consideration hereof— Signed & Ordered

John Beale Esq. Comr.