

from making their proper Improvements, and observe that if Mr. Canoll has need the fees which he has not made out of patents the people may leave their remedy against him in Common Law -

Signed, Foster, McClenahan Esq. Esq. Co. No. 2 and sent to the Upper House by Mr. James Lloyd Esq. Sec. Sec. Fendall

They return and say they desired the Mayor Recorder and Aldermen of the City of Annapolis praying leave to be heard on their petition in relation to the Town Common appeared at the Bar of this house who being heard the Consideration thereof is referred till next Session and Ordered that Laneclott Todd be summoned to appear there -

Mr. Taylor from the Committee of Grievances Delivered Mr. the following Report from Mr. Committee vizt -

Monday May 5th 1718.

At a Committee of Grievances held at the house of Mr. Mary Godd -

Were present -

Mr. Robert Taylor Chairman

Mr. Charles Wright

Col. Nathl. Hyndson

Capt. Daniel Manister

Capt. Tho. Dent -

Who the same day represent it as an Grievance that a great number of the Inhabitants of this Province have been subpoenaed to appear at the High Court of Chancery to answer the Bill of Complaint of Maurice Birchfield Esq. upon a suggestion that they were indebted to a certain John Godwin and other Merchants in London before making any Demands or giving Notice of such their Claims some of which never had any dealings with the Merchants they are charged Debtors to others have been charged Creditors instead of Debtors and many if were Debtors did by the said Merchants own accounts owe but very small and trifling Sums that of five pound which by the Laws of the Land are not Cognizable in the Chancery Court notwithstanding which such persons have been obliged to make answers and defend their Suits to their great expense and neglect of their business in attendance of Courts and when on a hearing the greatness of their oppressions by such severe prosecutions have been made appear they have been dismissed the Court but could recover no costs w^{ch} the said Birchfield - because of his acting on behalf of the Crowne altho' the trouble and Charge of such defence might have been saved to the