

Mr. Speaker // I Desire you will acquaint the House of Delegates  
with the Lawyers Op<sup>n</sup>. I mentioned Yesterday, which are the Opinions of  
Council as I am informed. Given by Mr. Maenemara on this Occasion.  
The Opinion of G<sup>o</sup>. Edward Northey, on the back of the late Law  
herewith sent you sufficiently (as I think) Justifies my proceeding  
ag<sup>t</sup>. Mr. Maenemara in the Chancery Court and may be of  
use to the Severall Courts of this Province.

To: Hart

M<sup>r</sup>. Maenemara mentioned in the within act is a Barrister  
at Law of the Society of Gray's Inn - and tho' he lived at Annapolis  
where the Assembly that made the within Law sat, yet he never  
was called upon or summoned to appear before the Assembly to  
answer any Charge against him but the act was carried with  
so much Secrecy that he had no opportunity of justifying and  
defending himself - and tho' he by accident had some Intimation  
of it and did thereupon Exhibit a petition praying leave to be  
heard against the Bill yet no order was made upon it but  
after the Assembly was prorogued their Clerk returned him his  
Petition without any answer.

The Generall Insinuations contained in the preamble are in  
themselves groundless and the said Maenemara's greatest enemies  
have not been able to prove any undue or unfair practice on him in  
one single Instance.

1. Qu. Whether an act grounded on such Generall Summises and  
carried on in such a manner be not illegal and arbitrary and  
whether the Lords Proprietors ought not in justice to Dissent thereto as  
being a thing without precedent touching on the Freeholds and  
Liberty of the Subject and whether any Facts mentioned in the  
preamble of the said act do in Law unqualify the s<sup>t</sup>. Maenemara  
from his practice.

Answer - I never knew or heard that the Legislature of any  
Civilized Country ever past an act so arbitrary and unjust as  
this seems to be and I am verily persuaded that if application be  
made to the Lords Proprietors they will refuse to ratify it -  
and I am of Opinion if application were made to the King  
in Council such an usage of one of His Majesty's Subjects would  
be directed to be examined into, and if it proves as represented  
some redress would be directed which might in consequence  
affect the interests of the Lords Proprietors and of the Colony of  
Maryland -

To: Hungerford 23 Aug<sup>r</sup>. 1718.

The Manner of passing this act without hearing M<sup>r</sup>.  
Maenemara in his own defence is Contrary to the Common