

Birchfield Esq. which was read and ordered to be entered as follows viz^t

April the 21th 1720

By the Committee appointed to address his Excellency
It seems necessary to this Committee in furtherance of the Subject
matter of the said address a letter be writ by W. Speaker to the Agent
to desire him to Communicate to his Excellency such papers as he hath
had transmitted to him in relation to that matter and to desire
him to assist his Excellency therein which is humbly Submitted
to the House

Signed for order Phil. Hammond Esq.

To His Excellency John Hart Esq. Governour of Maryland
The humble address of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly
May it please your Excellency //

The Great Regards your Excellency has
expressed for the welfare of our Country in the Communicating
to us the Copy of the Letter from the Honble the Com^{rs} of Trade to
the right Honble the Lord Guilford as well as by the whole
Course of your Administration emboldens us to make this our
Humble address to your Excellency for your assistance in the
Subject matter therein treated of, by which it appears plainly to
us that tho we have had the most necessitous Cause of complain-
ing of the rigorous and unjustifiable proceedings of Maurice
Birchfield Esq. and his Substitute herein his Majestys Name,
and by Colour of his Authority to the prejudice of his Subjects yet
for want of a clear Representation of our Case Injurious &
oppressors seem Justified by the Opinion of the Honble the Com^{rs}
of the Customs, and the Innocent Sufferers loaded with the
Imputation of making groundless Complaints and being
Clamorouse

We have Reason to be discouraged in all our future
applications if what we make on this occasion with your Excellency's
kind assistance (which we earnestly implore) should not fail us,
We must then look on ourselves under an unhappy necessity
of Submitting to the Dictates of any of his Majesters officers at home
however they be Misinformed or Deceived concerning us or the
States of our Cases

But we hope for better things and that if your Excellency
will please to permit us to refer to our former Representation
on this head and also to the papers relating thereto in our Agent
Colo: Blackstone's hands whose assistance in this Case we doubt
not of and also to the abstracts from the Chancery Dockets under
the hand of the proper officer and the great Seal of this Province you will