

by making Distresses, or taking any other legal Method to recover them, as to you shall seem most proper, according to particular Circumstances; and this you are to do, without Favour or Partiality to any Person in the Country, and more especially, to begin with the most considerable that shall be found tardy.

2^{dly}, Notwithstanding the above Limitation of Ten Days, you are in the mean Time left at your Liberty to distrain, or to proceed otherways against all such Persons that you have any Reason to suspect; and where any Persons dispute their Accounts, or refuse to pay on such Pretences, or do not appear reasonable, you are to lose no Time, but proceed immediately to recover against them, and bring the Matter to a speedy Issue.

3^{dly}, Where there appears Arrearages to be due on any of the preceding Years, you are to receive no Part thereof, nor any Part of the Rent for the last Half-Year, except the Persons, from whom such Arrearages are owing, will discharge the Whole.

4^{thly}, As the Scarcity of Sterling Money may subject some People to the paying Bills of Exchange, we are content, in Favour of such, to receive the Rents that Way; but as there is an unavoidable Expence attends the negotiating Bills of Exchange; and as in a great Number of Bills, there will be great Probability, that some of them may prove bad, which will be a very unreasonable Loss to the Collectors: You are therefore strictly to observe, that you take no Bills whatsoever, without an Allowance of Ten Shillings per Cent. and also you take no Bill from any Person whatsoever, but where several Persons will join for the Sum, and endorse for one another; and even then, not to take Bills, but when it is in Discharge of the Whole.

5^{thly}, Where the Necessities of People oblige them to pay Foreign whole Gold, cut Gold, Foreign Silver, or Paper Money, as it may be thought a Hardship absolutely to refuse them, you are to take them on no other Terms than at the following Rates, viz. Moidores at 25s. Pistoles at 15s. French Guineas at 21s. cut Gold at 2s. 9d. a Penny Weight, whole Pieces of Eight at 60 per Cent. other Spanish Silver at Two for One, Dollars at 2s. 3d. and Paper Money at 200 per Cent.

Samuel Chew,
John Galloway.

And the following Depositions:

The Reverend Mr. *James Williamson*, of Calvert County, being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, declares, That some Time in June, 1755, to the best of this Deposition's Knowledge, Mr. *Phillip Thomas*, with *Richard Stellinges*, one of the Sub-Sheriffs of the said County, and distrained one Negro Lad, of the proper Goods and Chattels of this Deponent, before any Demand was ever made by any Person whatsoever, on this Deponent: Upon which, the said *Thomas* and *Stellinges* came up to this Deponent's House; and thereupon the said *Thomas* told this Deponent, that he had distrained the aforesaid Slave for this Deponent's Rent; whereupon, this Deponent offered to the said *Thomas*, whole Spanish Gold, French Gold, and cut Gold, sufficient in either Specie to discharge the said *Thomas*'s Demand for said Rent; whose Answer was to this Deponent, that he would take nothing but Sterling Money: And this Deponent further upon his Oath aforesaid saith, That the aforesaid Negro continued under the Distress aforesaid for the Space of Two Days; at which Time, this Deponent procured the Sterling Money, and paid the Sum to the said *Stellinges*, who discharged the said Negro, upon this Deponent's giving his Note for the Payment of all the Sheriff's Fees accruing by Occasion of the Distress so made, as aforesaid.

James Williamson.

Richard Stellinges, of Calvert County, being duly sworn, declares, That some Time after September, 1755, to the best of this Deponent's Knowledge, this Deponent received of the Rev. Mr. *James Williamson*, one Pistole, Weight 23s. 10d. or more, in order to pay this Deponent's and said *Williamson*'s Quit-Rents; that this Deponent accordingly went to the Courthouse of the County aforesaid, where Mr. *Phillip Thomas* was, who would not take the same for more than 14 or 15 Shillings Sterling, and a few odd Pence; for which Sum only he did take it.

Richard Stellinges.

Emanuel Teal, of Baltimore County, being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, declares, That this Time Twelve Months, or thereabouts, to the best of this Deponent's Knowledge, this Deponent was inform'd by his Wife, that Mr. *Gilbert Crockett*, with Col. *William Hammond*, High-Sheriff of the County aforesaid, had been at this Deponent's House and demanded the Quit-Rents; that as soon as this Deponent came home, and was inform'd by his Wife, as aforesaid, he this Deponent went to the said *Crockett*, who told him that he would meet him at this Deponent's House the next Day, who accordingly came; that then the said *Crockett* told this Deponent, if he would give his Note for the Payment of One Hundred Pounds of Tobacco for his own Use, and One Hundred Pounds of Tobacco for the Use of the Sheriff, he would not distrain this Deponent, but would meet him at a certain *William Rogers*'s, the Saturday following, in order to receive the Rent; and further told this Deponent, that if he suffer'd himself to be distrained, the Charges accruing thereby, would amount to 400 or 600 Pounds of Tobacco, which, this Deponent is not certain; and thereupon, this Deponent accordingly passed a Note for the Payment of the said Sum of Two Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, and met the said *Crockett* at the Time and Place aforesaid, and paid the said *Crockett* his Rent accordingly; And this Deponent, upon his Oath aforesaid, further saith, That some Time afterwards, this Deponent being informed, that the Tobacco for which this Deponent passed his Note, as aforesaid, was not legally due, this Deponent sent to the said Sheriff the Sum of Ten Shillings, in Lieu of the said 200 Pounds of Tobacco; which said Sum the said Sheriff accordingly accepted, and delivered up this Deponent's Note; And further this Deponent saith, That the said *Crockett*, at the same Time this Deponent gave his Note for the Payment of the said 200 Pounds of Tobacco aforesaid, he the said *Crockett* told this Deponent, if