

continuance of this Act, in Tobacco at the rate of *Two Pence* Sterling per Pound, after such Acceptance by his said Lordship should be duly signified to this Province: And that in case his Lordship should not think fit to Accept thereof in manner aforesaid, then the said Duties to be applied towards the defraying the Publick Charge of this Province: And 'tis also by the said Act Enacted, that the same should continue in force till the End of the next Session of Assembly that should happen after the 10th day of *May* then next, and no longer, as by the said Act relation thereunto being had, may appear. And by Virtue of which last recited Act, your Committee humbly conceive, the said Duty for Support of Government was levied and raised, until his Majesty King *George* of Glorious Memory, was pleased to restore to the Government of this Province, the Right Honourable *Charles* Lord *Baltimore*, the present Lord Proprietary of this Province.

Your Committee humbly observe further, that upon his Lordship's being so Restored, and the Government again Changed, from his Majesty's to a Proprietary Government in the Year 1716, an Act Passed at a Session of Assembly, held the 17th day of *July*, in the First Year of the Dominion of the Right Honourable *Charles* Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Provinces of *Maryland* and *Avaton*, &c. and in the Year of our Lord aforesaid, entituled, *An Act ascertaining the Gauge and Tare of Tobacco Hogsheads, and to prevent cropping, cutting and defacing Tobacco taken on board Ships or Vessels upon Freight, and for laying Impositions on Tobacco per the Hogshead for the Support of Government, and for the encouraging Settlements in this Province by ascertaining the manner of paying his Lordship's Alienation Fines and Quit Rents for the Term therein proposed, and for taking off the Three Pence per Hogshead formerly raised for the Publick Charge*: By which said Act, 'tis among other Things recited, as is before-mentioned to be recited, concerning the enlarging the Gauge in the last aforesaid Act, said to be Passed in the aforesaid Year 1715, And 'tis by the said Act among other Things Enacted, that from and after the 29th day of *September* then next; there should be levied, collected and raised to the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, his Heirs and Successors, for every Hogshead of Tobacco, which should be shipped in any Ship or Vessel to be Exported out of this Province, or any the Territories, Islands, Ports, Rivers, Creeks or Places thereto belonging, after the said 29th day of *September*, the Sum of *Fifteen Pence* in lieu and stead of the *Twelve Pence* Sterling formerly Imposed on every Hogshead of the forementioned former Gauge, and for every Hundred weight of Tobacco Exported in Box, Chest, Barrel or Case *Two Pence half penny* Sterling, and so *pro rato* for a greater or lesser quantity, with a Proviso, that the Money that should be raised by the said Duty should be applied to those Ends and Uses for which it had to that Time been raised, *viz.* for the Support of his Lordship's Government within this Province in manner following and not otherwise, that is to say, *Three Pence* of the said *Fifteen Pence* per Hogshead, for the Purchasing of Arms and Ammunition for the maintaining a Magazine for the better Defence of this Province, and for the due Preservation thereof, to be collected by