

To his Excellency THOMAS BLADEN, Esq; Governor, and the Honourable the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly;

*The humble Representation of George Plater, James Hollyday, Samuel Chamberlayne, Richard Lee, and Benjamin Tasker, Naval Officers of the several Districts within this Province.*

**T**HAT, by an Act entitled, *An Act for emitting and making current Ninety thousand Pounds Current Money of Maryland, in Bills of Credit*, the several Naval Officers of this Province are directed to remit the Duty of 1 s. 3 d. per Hoghead, collected and levied by the said Act, to Mr. Samuel Hyde, Mr. William Hunt, and Mr. Robert Cruikshank, Merchants in London, or any two of them.

That since the making the said Act, Samuel Hyde and Robert Cruikshank, two of the said three Trustees, have failed in their Circumstances, whereby there is only one Trustee known to the said Naval Officers; who by that Means conceive themselves under some Difficulty how to comply with the Directions of the said Act, which requires the Remittance to be made to two of the Trustees named in the said Act.

Therefore the said Naval Officers humbly hope to have some Directions from your Excellency and Honours, to what Person or Persons they shall for the future make their Remittances, of the Bills of Exchange received by Virtue of the Act aforesaid.

GEO. PLATER,  
JA. HOLLYDAY,  
SAM. CHAMBERLAINE,  
BENJ. TASKER, Junior,  
RICHARD LEE.

Which was read, and ordered to lie for further Consideration.

*The House adjourns 'til 2 of the Clock.*

*Post Meridiem.*

The House met according to Adjournment.

On motion of a Member, Leave is given to bring in a Bill to empower the Justices of Talbot and St. Mary's County Courts to allow, at the laying of their next County Levy, unto Jonas Green, of the City of Annapolis, Printer, the Sums therein mentioned.

*The House adjourns 'til Tomorrow Morning 9 of the Clock.*

Thursday Morning, July 3, 1746.

**T**HE House met according to Adjournment, and the Proceedings of Yesterday were read.

Mr. Worthington, from the Committee of Accounts, delivers Mr. Speaker the Journal of Accounts; which was read and assented to, and sent to the Upper House by Mr. Worthington, and five others.

Mr. Speaker communicates to the House the following Message from the Governor:

*Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly,*

**I**N Answer to your Remonstrance, I think proper to acquaint you, that the Information you have received of my having called Mr. Smith a sorry Fellow, is absolutely false, and an Imposition on your House. Perhaps I might say, he was an ungrateful Fellow, for that he or his Family having had Obligations to the Proprietor, nevertheless he made it his Business to spread false Reports about the Country to the Dishonour of the Government: But pray, Gentlemen, what is this, or any Thing else, that is said in Conversation with any Man, to the Privilege of your House? Assert your Rights in God's Name, I never shall attempt or desire to infringe them; but don't imagine I am to take every Thing to be Privilege that you are pleased to call so: I think I know as well as you do what Privilege is; and, let me tell you, you are now carrying yours further in your Remonstrance, than ever was attempted by a British Parliament, and much beyond, I dare say, what your Constituents would wish.

To put this Point in as clear a Light as I can, not only to your own Understandings, but also to that of your Constituents, I shall first take Notice of the Clause in the Statute of 1st of William and Mary, declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and which I suppose you have taken as a Foundation for your extraordinary Declaration.

That Clause is thus expressed; "That the Freedom of Speech, and Debates of Proceedings in Parliament, ought not to be impeached or questioned in any Court, or Place, out of Parliament." The Meaning of this is obvious, not only from the legal Construction of the Words *questioned* and *impeached*, but from the Occasion and Necessity of declaring and asserting the Freedom of Speech by that Statute: As to the legal Construction, which is the only proper Rule for the Exposition of an Act of Parliament, the Word *questioning*, in that Sense, is the calling upon any Man, either by Virtue of a real, or pretended Authority, in order to accuse or prosecute such Person, and punish him for the same; and moreover, this Sense is very plain from the Word *impeached*, which immediately precedes the Word *questioned*, and between which two Words there is a Relation in their Meaning; and I may safely affirm, that neither your House, nor any Person else, ever can find an Instance where this Word *questioning*, in any Law Expression, was at any time used in any other Sense. Besides, if you consider some Part of the Grievance which gave Rise to this Declaration