

*Hooper's Island*, containing 2340 Acres, as by the Patent thereof, bearing Date the 15th Day of *July* 1738, granted to *Roger, Thomas, and John Hooper*, appears.

Your Committee likewise find, that the said *Henry Hooper*, in his Life Time, made a Resurvey of sundry Tracts of Land, which composed the said *Hooper's Island*, the Certificate of which and on which the above Patent is founded, bears Date the 2d Day of *October* 1714, which lay in the Land Office unpatented for some Time after, when the Widow and Executrix paid his Lordship's Agent all the Requisites, whereupon the said Patent issued.

Your Committee likewise find, that the Rents of all the Original Tracts were regularly and duly paid, to the 29th Day of *September* 1738.

Your Committee also find, that *Roger Hooper* paid, unto *Thomas Muir* Receiver of the Quit Rents for *Dorchester County*, from the 29th Day of *September* 1738, to the 29th of *September* 1752, the Sum of 40*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* Sterling, at sundry Times, as appears by the Account of said *Muir*; and that the Rents arising due from said *Roger Hooper*, for his Part of *Hooper's Island*, from the 15th of *July* 1738, to the 29th of *September* 1752, amounted to 40*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* and for Part of a Tract of Land, called *Projea*, in said County, devised to him by *Matthew Travers*, from the 29th of *September* 1740, to the 29th of *September* 1752, 50 Acres, 1*l.* 4*s.* Sterling, as appears by an Account hereunto annexed, whereby there remained a Ballance of 1*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* only, due to the said *Thomas Muir* as Receiver aforesaid.

Your Committee further find, that the said *Thomas Muir*, on the 11th Day of *January* 1753, caused *Daniel Sullivane*, Sheriff of the said County, to distrain upon the said *Roger Hooper*, two Negroes for the Sum of 35*l.* 5*s.* and 6*d.* Sterling, and that the said *Hooper*, to prevent the Loss of his Negroes, was obliged to enter into a Bond to the said *Sullivane*, with a Surety in the Penalty of 100*l.* Sterling, conditioned as follows, viz.

"The Condition of the above Obligation is such, that if the above named *Roger Hooper* do and shall, satisfy and pay, unto *Thomas Muir, Esq;* the Sum of 35*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* Sterling Money of England, at or before the 18th Day of this Instant *January*, or bring forth to *Cambrige*, or Cause to be brought, on the said 18th Day of this Instant *January*, one Negro Woman called *Moreah*, one Negro Boy called *Cuffy*, being taken by Distress for his Lordship's Quit-Rents, then the above Obligation to be void, otherwise to stand in full Force and Virtue, in Law;" as by the Bond hereunto annexed, may appear. That the giving such Bond, with so great a Penalty, so frightened the said *Hooper*, and his Surety, that he, to acquit himself thereof, was obliged to take up the Sterling Money, at the high Exchange of one Hundred per Cent, beside the Costs, amounting to 1*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* Sterling and 138*lbs.* of Tobacco.

Your Committee humbly conceive, that the taking such Bond was illegal, as also the said Charge of 1*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* Your Committee also find, that the said *Thomas Muir*, charged the said *Hooper* for Arrears of Rent in the Years 1714 and 1715, and that it is practised by other Receivers also, although it appears to your Committee, that at a Session of Assembly held *April* 26, in the Year 1715, an Act passed, declaring the Continuance of the Payment of the twelve Pence per Hoghead, from the Death of *Charles Lord Baltimore*, to the 29th Day of *September* then next, vide Record Book of Laws, Page 129; and the same Session, an Act of Gauge and Tare was made, Page 206; and that at a Session of Assembly, held the 17th Day of *July* 1716, an Act for Gauge and Tare was made, as appears in the same Book, Page 302; in all which there is a Consideration to the respective Lords Proprietors for Land Rents.

Your Committee humbly conceive, that there could be no Rent due upon the said Land called *Hooper's Island*, but from the Date of the Patent thereof; and that the said *Thomas Muir* his causing the said *Roger Hooper* to be distrained for the Sum aforesaid, was illegal, Grievous and Oppressive, but is humbly submitted to the Consideration of your Honourable House.

Signed per Order, WILLIAM WILKINS, Clerk.

Which was read and ordered to lie on the Table.

*The House adjourns till 2 of the Clock Afternoon.*

*Post-Meridiem.* The House met according to Adjournment.

A Petition of *Alexander Hamilton*, Doctor of Physic, complaining of an undue Return, made by the Aldermen of the City of *Annapolis*, was preferred to this House; upon reading thereof,

Ordered, That the Petitioner do give Notice to *George Steuart, Esq;* of this Petition having been preferred, and that this House will proceed to take the same into Consideration, at the Bar of this House on the morrow Morning,