

To his Excellency

T E D E N, Esq; Governor of Maryland, and the Honourable
Upper House of Assembly of the said Province,

The P E T

I O N of the SUBSCRIBERS, Inhabitants of Baltimore County.

Humbly sheweth

THAT a Petition having been preferred to the present General Assembly, signed by a certain John Paca, Thomas Cockey Deye, and Six others, the particular Dependants and Adherents of the said John Paca and Thomas Cockey Deye, asserting and alledging, that from the raging of the Small-Pox in the Town of Baltimore, a Majority of the Freeholders in the said County will be prevented from attending and voting at the Election, if held in Baltimore-Town, and praying that the said Election might be held in Part at the Town of Joppa: Which Petition being by your honourable House referred to the Consideration of the Lower House of Assembly; was there read and rejected, upon the Principle adopted by that honourable House, that in all Petitions relating to Elections, the Consideration of the same doth solely appertain to that Branch of the Legislature; that after the said Petition was so read and rejected, a Motion was made, and Leave given to bring in a Bill for holding the Election in Part at Joppa.

Your Petitioners, in Justice to themselves, as well as many others, the Inhabitants of Baltimore County, think themselves bound in Duty to remonstrate to your Excellency and Honours against the Passage of a Bill so extraordinary in its Nature, and which appears calculated only to answer the private Purposes of a few Individuals, without any Benefit arising therefrom to the Publick.

To prove the Fallity of the Allegations contained in the Preamble of the said Bill, your Petitioners beg Leave to refer to Depositions of the Witnesses hereto annexed; and as the said Bill is repugnant to the Laws, Usage and Customs of this Province, introductive of a new Mode of Election hitherto unknown, founded upon Assertions of a few Individuals, not supported by, but devoid of Truth, we humbly submit to the Consideration of your Excellency and Honours, whether such ought to be past into a Law.

† William Ottey,
Benjamin Rogers,
Samuel Owings, Jun.
Robert Alexander,
John Boyd,
Charles Weisenthal,
John Purviance,
Jonathan Plowman,
John Dodge,

• _____,
• _____,
R. Moale,
Charles Ridgely,

Jacob Myers,
Thomas Jones,
• _____,
Thomas Worthington,
Mordecai Mordecaij,
James Kelly,
John Owen,
John Cannon,
Barnett Echelberger,
John Hawn,
Jacob Dowdal,
Sam. Roddny,

Jn. Smith,
Wm. Spear,
• _____,
John Haden,
Ja. Steritt,
• _____,
Elias Barnaby,
• _____,
Wm. Westbag,
• _____,
Philip Miller,
John Hartt.

Whereupon it is ordered, that Summons issue for Mr. William Hutchings to appear at the Bar of this House, at Three o'Clock this Afternoon, to answer unto such Questions as may be then and there put to him by the honourable Speaker and the House, in Relation to the said Paper.

The House being informed, that William Hutchings was attending at the Door, agreeable to the said Summons, ORDERED, That he be called in.

The said Hutchings appearing accordingly, and being sworn, declared to the following Effect: "That the Paper shewn to him was wrote by him; that some Time last Sessions of Assembly, Mr. Thomas Cockey Deye desired him to make a Copy of a Paper, which he understood was called a Remonstrance to the Upper House, by some People in Baltimore County, and that he wrote the Paper now shewn him for a true Copy of the said Remonstrance, and that the signers Names which are in English were also truly copied; but as to the Dutch Names, he cannot say whether the Characters are exactly copied; that he and Mr. Deye examined the said Copy with the Original, and found it to be a true Copy." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Deye, a Member of the House, being desired to declare to the House what he knew concerning the said Paper, said, "That he and Mr. John Paca received a Notice in Writing, from Dr. Scott, Clerk of the Upper House, that some Gentlemen in Baltimore County had put in a counter Petition against their Petition for an Act to hold the Election of Baltimore County at different Places; that a Day was appointed for a Hearing, and that if they desired it, they might be heard by Council before the Upper House: On which he, Mr. Deye, applied for a Copy of the said Petition, and the Clerk answered, he could not then make him a Copy, but he might have the Original, if he would return it soon, and accordingly delivered it to him; and he, Mr. Deye, applied to Mr. William Hutchings to make him a Copy thereof, and the Paper now before the House is that Copy, which he believes was truly taken."

Whereupon it is resolved, That the said Petition is false and scandalous, reflects on the Honour, Justice and Impartiality of this House, and highly derogatory of its Rights and Privileges.

RESOLVED, That this House will take into Consideration the said Petition on Saturday next.

ORDERED, That the Serjeant at Arms attending this House, do forthwith take into his Custody the Bodies of William Ottey, Benjamin Rogers, Samuel Owings, Jun. Robert Alexander, John Boyd, Charles Weisenthal, John Purviance, Jonathan Plowman, John Dodge, Richard Moale, Charles Ridgely, Jacob Myers, Thomas Jones, John Smith, William Spear, James Steritt, and John Hartt, and have them at the Bar of this House, on Saturday the Twentieth Instant.