

the one, and Lord *Baltimore* was called upon to exert all that [ <sup>b</sup> ] Benevolence, which had before endeared him to the People of this Province, to excuse the other.

You perceive that the Assembly, in 1692, were extremely zealous to deprive his Lordship of the Tonnage, and that the Reasons they gave to justify this Conduct highly reflected upon the Characters of Lord *Cæcilius*, and Lord *Charles*; but Lord *Baltimore* was not the only Person who was to be affected in his Claims, and was therefore not the only Person, whose Character was to be vilified.

THE Secretary had received a Fee, or Perquisite, upon the Clearance, and Entry of every Vessel; but by the above mentioned Act "for settling Naval Officers" the Assembly were induced to take this Perquisite from the Secretary, and transfer it to the Governor.

THE Secretary had also received all the Fees on Writs, &c. in the Court of Chancery; but some of them were given to the Governor by the Act "for Limitation of Officers Fees."

THE ordinary Licences were also taken from the Secretary, and granted to the Governor—The Secretary was President of the Council, but the Governor's Inclinations were, that his Favourite [ <sup>1</sup> ] Mr. *Blackiston* should supply his Place, and the Secretary was removed.

SIR *Thomas Lawrence* (the Secretary) conceiving that these Proceedings trespassed upon the Rights of his Station complained of them, with very little Reserve, as partial, and injurious.

MR. *Nicholson* the Lieutenant Governor disapproved, as it should seem, the Measures taken under Mr. *Copley's* Administration, and was suspected of harbouring some Views not very favourable to his Excellency's Plan, and Schemes of Government.

AN Impeachment was framed against Lord *Baltimore* containing, principally, the Facts set forth in the Act of 1692; (which I shall consider hereafter at large) but it was thought proper to let it drop. However Representations against Sir *Thomas Lawrence*, and Mr. *Nicholson* were transmitted, in Letters to Mr. *Paggon* the Provincial Agent, to be presented to the Board of Trade. Against Sir *Thomas* it was alledged among other Things that "he had taken, and seized Three " of the best, and most principal Clerkships managed by the most expert, able, and choice " Clerks, who had faithfully, and diligently served their Majesties, and been obedient to their " Government, and had been discarded upon no other Reason, or Pretence whatsoever that Sir " *Thomas* could alledge, than his own Power, and Prerogative to make Vacancies, and supply " them, when, and as he pleased, that his Proceedings were resented by the People, and called " for Redress, daily Complaints being expected from the Magistrates touching the Insufficiency " of the newly imposed Clerks, and the turning out of those, of whose Ability and Integrity " they had had good Proofs, and Experience—That he associated, caballed, and advised, and " indeed conversed with none, but the King's open, and professed Enemies, and [ <sup>b</sup> ] Malignants, " who insinuated nothing but Lies, and Falshoods, and put him upon exorbitant Measures to " satisfy his avaricious, and greedy Appetites—That he stood at Defiance, having in a Manner " deserted, and alienated himself from the Government, and sought all Opportunities of Com- " plaint against the same, tho' never so unjust, and fictitious, inasmuch that having calmly, and " candidly debated the Fees, and Perquisites of his Office, and the same being settled by Laws, " he violently flew off, and threat'ned to protest against the Laws themselves, because they cor- " responded not with his ravenous Expectations, and Inclinations, and upon the least Occasion, " tho' never so trivial, he talked of nothing less than appealing to the King, and Council, and " this so publickly that he gave Occasion to other Malignants to hold in Contempt the Authority " of their Majesty's Government."

THIS Representation was very soon followed by another against Sir *Thomas*, setting forth that there were fresh Occasions of representing the irregular, and undue Proceedings of Sir *Thomas Lawrence*, daily pursuing his former wonted Inclinations, and Endeavours to advance his own private Interest, above their Majesty's Service, continually, and only associating himself with Papists, and other Malignants, their Majesty's open, and known Enemies, countenancing none but them, and endeavouring to raise, and foment Differences, and Animosities against the Government, and not only so, but using his Skill to asperse, and scandalize the same by his most notorious false Informations, and Suggestions, and particularly in his Fee assessed on

[ <sup>b</sup> ] See forward, Note [ <sup>1</sup> ]

[ <sup>1</sup> ] Not Mr. *Blackiston* who was afterwards Governor; but the Gentleman who had been Collector of Patowmack, and accused by Lord *Baltimore*, before the Revolution, of Malversation in his Office.

[ <sup>b</sup> ] This mischievous Term became very fashionable at this Period.