

tary yet it was always but by Temporary Laws from three years to three years at the Expiration of which Laws it was as wee Conceive in the Power of the Assembly to give it to whom they thought fitt

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5^{thly} That as to what Sr Thomas Laurence asserts concerning his Application to the Comittee of Laws in April 1704. And their refusal to hear him ag^t the Bill. We say Sr Thomas Laurence was not denyed to be heard by that Comittee but was by them treated with all the Civility & respect and answered by the Chairman thereof That what they did was given them in Charge from the House of Delegates & that that Comittee could not Act Contrary but must proceed according to their Directions

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6^{thly} Upon the Whole Matter wee do not find that any Secry of Maryland (Sr Tho. Laurence excepted) ever claimed the Profitts arising by Ord^{ry} Lycenses as a Perquisite belonging to & inseparable from the Secretarys Office. but when they had the same it was by the free Donation from the Lord Baltemore when granted him by the Assembly during his Government here and since by the Gift of the Assembly wthout p^tence of any other Right thereto so that we are of opinion that unless Sr Thomas Laurence can make it appear that the same is a Perquisite incident to the Sec^{rys} Office & inseparable therefrom Settled by any Act or Acts of Assembly otherwise than as a^d it is & of Right ought to be in the Power of the gen^l Assembly to dispose of the Same as they think fitt.

Neither have we any Reason to believe that our most gracious Queene will deny her royal Assent to any Law Enacted here for the good of this Province upon the bare Insinuation of private or particular persons whose Interest leads them to think or say the Contrary Especially where they do not (as the Act for Ordinary Lycenses does not) lessen her Majestys Officers Just Fees they being limited by another Act of Assembly for that purpose.

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So that upon Consideration had upon the whole matter of Sr Thomas Laurences Peticon We doe Assert that the Fine for Ordinary Lycenses is not nor ever was an ancient Fee or Perquisite belonging or appertaining to the Secretarys Office of Maryland

Signed p Order Rich^d Dallam Cl Conc.

By the House of Delegates Aprill 10th 1706

Upon reading this Report The house concurs therewith
Sign'd p Order W Taylard Clk h d.

M^r Jones & M^r Grey bring from the house Viz.

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