

By the Conference appointed for enquiring into the Charter of the City of Annapolis and the Liberties and Privileges thereby granted held at the House of Major John Freeman December 2nd 1708. The Conference being met pursuant to the Message from his Excellency and Council proceed to examine the Matter contained in the Charter and on Debate thereof it's humbly conceived as the best Expedient to prevent further Disputes on that Subject for it to be established and confirmed by an Act of Assembly for that Purpose to be made allowing the said Citizens & the Liberties and Privileges given and mentioned in the said Charter so far that it may no wise infringe the Liberties & Privileges of the Public either in Regard to publick Lands or Buildings by them heretofore purchased and to which they are lawfully and rightfully entituled and desire the same may be reserved and continued for the same Ends and Purposes they were purchased and designed and have heretofore been held and enjoyed and not otherwise and that the Justices and Commissioners of Ann Arundel County may continue to hold their Courts in the Stadt House as usual. L. H. J.

It is further reported by the Conferrees that a Clause be inserted in such Law to be made that the Representatives for the said City have half the usual Allowance of the Delegates of each County and no more.

As to that Part of the Charter relating to the Recorder this Conference humbly conceive the Person appointed thereupon as Recorder is not qualified by Law for that Office in Regard he is exempt by Law as not having been a Resident here for three years

It is likewise proposed that the Justices of the County Courts &^{ta} may enjoy & continue their usual Liberties of executing their Office of Justices of Peace within the said City of Annapolis in as full and ample Manner as heretofore and that all Bye Laws which shall hereafter be made by the Mayor Recorder and Aldermen &^{ta} be not any Ways binding to any other Inhabitants of the Province save only in Relation to the Citizens of Annapolis.

As to that Part of the Charter relating to the Toll these Conferrees think the Toll too unreasonable and excessive for it is considered that if a thousand Pounds be imported here that extravagant Toll there mentioned may amount to one hundred Pounds and it's thought more to the Benefit of the City there be no Toll mentioned. All which is humbly offered and recommended to your Excy and Council and House of Delegates. p. 166

Signed p Order Tho^s Jones Clerk Con^t

The above Report being read and considered ordered it be indorsed as follow