

L. H. J. Govenor Copely for every License to keep Ordinary at Saint
 Lib. 41. Mary's City two thousand Pounds of Tobacco and in the
 Counties twelve hundred Pounds of Tobacco which Act was
 to continue but three Years Sir Thomas Lawrence being then
 Secretary of Maryland who upon passing the Act and another
 p. 260 the same Session Entituled an Act for Tonnage and settling
 Naval Officers Fees within this Province petitioned his said
 late Majesty King William that the same Act might not pass
 the Royal Assent under Pretence that the Profits arising thereby
 were Perquisites belonging to the Secretary Office and upon
 the said Sir Thomas's Complaint none appearing to gainsay
 the same the said Acts were dissassented but not any Directions
 to vest the Benefits of Ordinary Licenses in Sir Thomas Law-
 rence as Secretary or otherwise True it is the Assembly by an
 Act made in the Year 1694 in the Time of Governor Nicholson
 did give the Profits arising from Ordinary Licenses to Sir
 Thomas Lawrence which is the first Law that ever gave such
 Fines to the Secretary which said Act was Temporary and
 expired in three Years And altho' the Assembly did afterwards
 by other Acts continue the same to the Secretary yet it was
 always by Temporary Laws thereby reserving to themselves
 the Power of disposing of it as to them should seem meet.
 And it being considered that the Fees of the Secretary's Office
 of late are vastly increased through the Multitude of Business
 therein and the Licenses to Ordinary Keepers not being and
 Ways entered or recorded in the Secretary's Office is unreason-
 able the Fines arising thereon should be given or settled
 on him

This, Dread Sovereign is the true State of the Case, and
 we doubt not will give your Majesty full Satisfaction that Sir
 Thomas Lawrence as Secretary has no Right to the Fines on
 Ordinary Licenses within this Province, and hope your Majesty
 will not hear any further Complaints against us by Sir Thomas
 Lawrence upon this Subject.

Robert Bradley Speaker	Thomas Robins	Ja Smallwood
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Daniel Mariartee	Geo. Gale	Rob ^t Tyler
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W. Smith	Robert Skinner	