

Sheweth.

Calvert
Paper
No. 295½

That an Act was passed in the said Province of Maryland anno 1725 Entituled an Act to Restrain the ill Practice of Attorneys & to prevent their taking mony-Fees, & ascertaining what Fees shall be Allow'd to Practitioners in the Law who shall attend the Circuit Courts which Act continued in Force till July 1729 and by another Act then passed was continued 3 years longer.

That by this Act the Profession of the Law was put under so many Difficultys & Hardships th^t many of the Prac^{ers} were necessitated to leave off their practice untill they shou'd be releiv'd from the many unjust oppressions thereby brought upon them. To which End y^r pet^r on their Behalf humbly applyed to y^r Ldsp for a Repeal of both the s^d Acts, which y^r Ldsp on taking the same into y^r most serious consideration was pleas'd to comply with & did Repeal the s^d Acts accordingly. That the last sessions being the first after y^r Ldsp had repealed the s^d Acts, the Legislature of the s^d Province pass'd another Act, Entituled an Act to Ascertain the Fees of Practitioners of the Law within this Province, & to Prevent Extortions Frauds & Abuses therein; Which Act is the very same in Substance with the s^d Act passed in 1725 w^{ch} y^r Ldsp had so lately Repealed, & is so very Injurious & oppressive on the Professors of the Law, & is Calculated to put them under so many insupportable Hardships & Difficultys, th^t unless they are speedily releiv'd therefrom by y^r Ldsp's Repealing the s^d Act they must of necessity leave off y^r practice. p. 37

That y^r pet^{er} has rec^d Directions from the chief of the Profession in the Law in Maryland for them & on their behalf to make the most immediate Application to y^r Ldsp for a Repeal of the s^d Act, as being unjust in it self, not agreeable to Reason, repugnant to the Laws of England & invading the Liberty & Property of the Subject, & lyable to the very same Objections which induced your Lordships to Repeal the said former Act.

Therefore & as y^r Pet^{er} has an Attested Copy of the s^d Act Transmitted under the Seal of y^r Ldsp's s^d Province

Your Pet^{er} for & on behalf of the Pract^{ers} of the Law in Maryland humbly prays y^r Ldsp th^t you wou'd be forthwith pleas'd to Repeal the s^d Act, & th^t y^r Ldsp wou'd be pleas'd to Enjoyn y^r Gov^{or} of the s^d Province not to Pass any Law of the like Nature or Tendency for the future at least, unless there be a Restraining Clause to prevent its taking Effect untill y^r Ldsp's pleasure be first known thereon

And y^r Pet^{er} shall ever Pray &^{ca}

Jn^o Sharpe.

Jan^{ry} the 29th 1730/1 his Ldsp. having heard the s^d Pet^{on} & complaint & finding the above mentioned Law lyable to the same objections as that Law pass'd in 1728. He therefore was pleas'd to order his Dissent thereunto Jan^{ry} the 29th 1730/1