

P. R. O.
B. T. Md.
Vol. 17.

By the house of Delegates Sept^r 28th 1704

Wee have Considerd the last Message by Kenelme Cheseldyn and W^m Coursey Esq^{rs} of this day for settling the fees on private laws And transcribing the body of laws And As to those of this Sessions Wee haue by Examining the Comittee of laws found they will be of Greater length then What Wee at first beleived And therefore are willing to Allow 2000^l tob for every cobby And thats the highest that euer wee find Allowd Even when the Whole body has been revised which Wee cannot in reason Advance.

As to the last Sessions laws Wee haue Examind the laws and finde the proporcon is Sufficient; and why Your hono^{rs} propose 1000 because of presidents when there is A plain law directory in the point Wee cant Imagine And if your hono^{rs} would haue them presidents And not the law direct us then wee should Allow but 1000 for this body which wou'd be unreasonable but Yo^r hono^{rs} know it is the true intent of the law that Wee and You look to and Not Criticall Exceptions Which if Wee wou'd made use on wee might Scruple to Allow any thing for last Sessions laws, but Wee Meane nothing but What is honest And fair And desire to be so understood and Used.

To the private bills we meane the persons to be Answerable for the same As the publiq is for the publiq bills. And Altho wee Shall not dispute the Weight of business that lyes upon any clerk beleiving euey one has enough

Wee desire to be excus'd from increasing any fees on private bills At this time more then what has been used before And Wee do not finde Yo^r Clerk (tho Wee haue A respect for him) ever Allowd any fees on private bills And hope you will not press that Matter Any further but Ioyne with us in hearty endeavo^{rs} to dispatch the Weighty Matters in hand.

Signd p order W^m Taylard Cl h D.

Which being read and Approovd of was sent up to his Ex^{cy} and Councill by M^r Iames Smallwood M^r W^m Watts & M^r W^m Peirce.

They returne and say they deliverd the same.

The honob In^o Hamond Esq^r enters the house And delivers M^r Speaker

Bill for admtration of Iustice in probatt of Wills &c^a

Endorsd Eod die. Read the 1st and 2^d time and do pass for engrossment

W^m Bladen Cl Co.

Sent up to the Comittee of laws to be Engrost
The following Message orderd to be read Viz^t.