

End which we humbly hope will be Agreeable to your Lordship and U. H. J. not lyable to the Objections made against the former Law.

If any of Our Clergy should endeavour to render this Act fruitless and Ineffectual We hope all Attempts of that sort will be vain since the Welfare of the people of this Province depends so much upon it.

And altho those Gentlemen should Object against One fourth part of their Stipends being paid them in Grain We Conceive the Objection will appear unreasonable when its considered that the Grain to be paid them will be worth as much Money as the Tobacco Allowed for it would purchase without such a Law and that the Restraint laid upon the Planters will render the Tobacco to be paid the Clergy of more Value than what the whole without such restraint would be And tho' we are determined to do nothing really Injurious to the Clergy We apprehend it would be manifest Injustice to the People to Prohibit their making Tobacco and at the same time compell them to pay the full dues in that Commodity.

As we would Avoid all Just Occasion of Complaint we have fixed the prices of Grain the very same that Creditors are Obligated to Receive it at when they Execute their Debtors for Tobacco which they cannot pay and this we think very just since it has been Experienced for many years without Complaint made against it to the General Assembly.

Our desires to Encourage good and Pious Clergy men to come amongst us that by their Exemplary Piety Virtue and Truth might appear Amiable has always prevented Attempts to divide any Parish unless the Parish was of so large an Extent that rendred it Impossible for any Clergyman to perform the necessary Dutys of his Function And even then care has always been taken to leave the Incumbent a larger allowance than any Clergyman in Virginia Enjoys

It is with much concern We find that the Tenor of the Oath of Judge or Justice directed by Our former Act of Assembly for that purpose [which] was so disagreeable to Your Lordship as to induce Your Lordships Reasons for Dissenting to that Law is from the form of An Oath laid before us at that time by his Excellency Our Governour by Your Lordships direction in which were Contained the following Words (Viz) According to the Laws Statutes and reasonable Customs of England as have been Used and practiced in this Province these Words We conceived confined the Judges only to have regard to what Laws and Statutes were heretofore in force and practiced here Exclusive of any that might hereafter be Enacted altho they should even in Express Words be Extended hither which We apprehended would be a great Evil and quite alter the practice and Useage of this Province which has been hitherto to Determine Causes according to the Laws of England from time to time Enacted as well as those heretofore made, for this Reason May it Please Yo^r Lordship We