

Notice of the Charge; "1762, April 20, — Fifty Copies of his Majesty's Declaration, with Proclamations of War sent to the several Counties, 714 Sides, 6426<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco," which we imagine to have been a Mistake in Mr. Ross, and an Excess of 4496<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco. With what Justice then can a Claim for Mr. Ross be exhibited against any body, for the Service done by another? With what Justice can he charge the Recording Proprietary Settlements, or the Petitions of private Persons or Parishes, to the Public? Or, under what Rule in the Inspection Law, with regard to Matters of a private, suppose it extendable to those of a public Concern, can the Charge of 30,600<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco, for making out 204 Inspectors Commissions, (properly Warrants,) be justified? If the Rule of Nine Pounds of Tobacco by the Side, was to be adopted with regard to the Inspectors Warrants, as it has been with respect to the other Charges in the Account, those Warrants would not come to 18<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco each. If the Sentiments of those who occupied the Stations we are now placed in, at the Time the Necessity of the Governor's Warrants to the Inspectors was first created, could be consulted, there can be little Doubt in whose Favour those Sentiments would be; and this is evidenced by their excluding the Necessity of the Great Seal, or issuing a Commission, and of consequence the Charges that are now trumped up against the Public; besides, your Honours, from your Acquaintance with the History of that Part of the Inspection Law, which alone makes the Appointment of Inspectors by the Governor necessary, well know, that very different Motives, than an Increase of Duty or Fees to the Clerk of the Council, actuated the Legislature at that Time. Under what Idea of Justice your Honours countenanced the Charges for Days Attendance, amounting in the whole to 9,600<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco, we cannot conceive; as for any Thing that appears to us, or we believe to the contrary, the Days Attendance, and the particular Services done in those Days, are both extended, and consequently are double Charges. From the indistinct Manner of stating the Account, it is possible we may be mistaken in this, as from the same Reason we might probably be, if we were to form any Guesses, whether the Services performed by the Clerk of the Council, for which he has a Claim upon the Public, except the one before particularized, are or are not in any respect connected with the private Concerns of Lord Baltimore.

Your Honours, from hence, with very little Trouble to yourselves, may be ascertained, that making only the Deductions of those Charges and Excesses, that are so evidently unjust with respect to the Public, let the Satisfaction be made in what Manner it may for those, the late and present Clerk of the Council ought to be paid: There remains, exclusive of mere War Charges, only 19,162<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco, which, proportioned on Nine Years and Six Months, the Time for which a Salary is claimed, at 9,600<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco, *per Annum*, comes to 2,016<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco yearly: But, for your Honours Ease and entire Satisfaction in this Matter, we have herewith sent you an Account, which we think fully demonstrates, that Mr. Ross, since his first being Clerk of the Council, has received from the Public to the Amount of 153,621<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco more than he ought, up to the Time of his resigning that Office, under an Abuse of the Rule you contend for, that of allowing him an annual Salary in the Journal for Services by him done for the Public.

We are at a Loss from what your Honours could take it to be agreed, "That a Salary to the Clerk is the most convenient Satisfaction; and that the Salary of 9,600<sup>lb</sup> Tobacco, or Sixty Pounds Currency, *per Annum*, is a moderate Allowance." As the Terms of our Message, from which alone you attempt to Torture this Agreement of ours by your own Recital, appear to be, that "the Services done by the Clerks of the Council may merit some Salary, the Quantum of which we will not undertake to ascertain;" nor did we think it necessary to spend our Time in useless Considerations on the Quantum of a Salary with which we considered ourselves at least so far unconnected, that it could not with any Degree of Propriety be discharged by a further Tax on the People. It is a Matter that we then thought, and still think, not properly now, a Subject of our Deliberations; and, had not your Honours laid so great Stress on it, we should not have troubled ourselves with investigating a Truth that now must appear to the World, that the Salary of 9,600<sup>lb</sup> of Tobacco, or Sixty Pounds Currency, *per Annum*, is an immoderate Allowance, though your Honours with such Earnestness endeavour to maintain the contrary.

We still allow, as we did before, that the Services done by the Clerk of the Council may merit some Salary; and, had that Admission been kept in View, it might have saved your Honours the unnecessary Trouble of proving the same Thing: The Quantum made necessary, only by yourselves, we think we have demonstrated to be flatly against you, and the Mode of Payment is, in our Apprehension, the only Point now remaining to be discussed.

May we request your Honours Opinion, Whether a Trust in its Nature does not oblige the Trustee to render an Account? Whether, by our Constitution, an Account is not to be rendered for Monies granted for Public Uses? Whether Monies, granted for the Support of Government, are not granted for Public Uses? The Freemen of this Province are of Opinion in the Affirmative; and we, their Representatives, speak their Sense on the Subject.

We cannot think, but that King William III, the glorious Restorer of English Liberties, knew something of that Constitution which he Restored and Settled; if he did, and spoke his Sense of its Principles to his Parliament, in the 13<sup>th</sup> Year of his Reign, in these Words, "It is all ways with Regret when I do ask Aids of my People; but you will observe that I desire nothing which relates to any personal Expence of mine; I am only pressing you to do all you can for your