

Province yearly for their License which the Lord Baltimore did formerly of his own free will bestow on the Clergy his creatures and relations in lieu of some other fee of greater Value taken from them, which he might also take from them at his Pleasure so that they never had or could claim any right or Property therein but merely his Lordships Bounty he likewise conceives himself Injured in being debarred of a certain other Fee of forty Shillings that by a Act of Assembly of this Province now settled upon the Governor for Entering and Clearing of every Ship or Vessel having here in lieu and full of a Fee formerly termed Secretarys fees but taking by his Lordship under colour of an old Law long since abrogated by his Lordships own Consent and for which now the Governor doth employ and maintain convenient Officers to Perform that Duty in the respective entering Ports of this Province, so that we humbly offer it to your Lordships more judicious Consideration whether Malice Avarice & Self Interest rather than any just cause or the publick good have not induced him to such illegall methods of proceedings and consequently been the only ground of his supposed Grievance and occasion of complaint not taking any notice of his Instructions which positively prohibit him to make Sale or any other advantage directly or indirectly of any office or place under him other then a reserve of the 10th Part of the respective County Clerks perquisites have directly contrary thereto exacted of such Clerks a Gratuity besides for the purchase of their Commissions and now lately wholly divested & acquitted himself of his own immediate Office and exposed the same to sale and Farm to the late Clerks of the Provinciaall Court for a very considerable & extraordinary Sum to be annually paid him which is not only a palpable breach of his Instructions but may in all Probability be a means to seduce the said Clerks and (unless he be a Person of great Integrity and more than ordinary good Principles) lead him to..... corruption, and exacting of illegall and extortious Fees from the Inhabitants to make good the Salary

Even so far (may it please your Lordships) hath the malignancy