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To his Excellency the Governour and the Honour.ble Council of the Province of Mary.d

The Petition of the Subscribers in behalf of themselves & a great Number of Freeholders of Prince Georges County

Humbly Sheweth

That the Court house of the said County is a Wooden Building much decay'd, and that Upper Marlborough the place where it now stands is exceedingly inconvenient to the greatest part of the Freeholders if the division of the County takes place at Seneca, and as a Division has been expected for some time the Justices of the said County have often refused as We are informed to make any considerable Repair till that should be determined that the Inhabitants in the new County might not be burthened with any part of the expence. And yet some of the Justices of the said County on the last day of last November Court did make an Order of Court without any Petition from the Inhabitants, to Levy on the people One hundred thousand pounds of Tobacco at two Assessments, of which sum they have actually Levied Fifty One thousand Nine hundred & forty four pounds of Tobacco in the last Levy; to Repair or rather Rebuild the Old Court house with Brick Walls and a pine Roof; when five or Six thousand pounds of Tobacco as is well known, would have put it in better repair for some years to come than it has been for some years past, and We humbly apprehend that the Justices levied such a large Sum to put it out of the power of the people to obtain an Act of Assembly to remove the Court House from Marlborough to a more convenient place.

And as the 20th of February was appointed by the Commissioners to agree with Workmen, We then waited on them with reasons which are here annexed, why they should not enter into any Contract till the whole affair should be laid before the Legislature, and yet the Commissioners declared they intended to Contract, and they should have no regard to the Opinion of the Freeholders if there were Ten thousand of them, but that they would Act in consequence of the Order of Court; And We are since informed they have actually Contracted for the whole hundred thousand.

Therefore your Petitioners thought it their Duty, to lay the facts above mentioned before this Honourable Board, and humbly Pray that you will please to take the same into your Consideration, and therein do as your Wisdom & Goodness shall direct. & your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

Richd Sheredon
George Scott.
John Thomas
Jos S Smith Rev.d Cler.d
Jno Wadham
Alex Beall
John Adamson
James Crow
Tho Richardson
Andw Beall
Sam: Beall Junr
George Moore
Philip Jackson
Charles Snell
his
Benja S Bright
mark
Alex Jackson
Thomas Crawford

Ja: Edmonston
Chas. Lowndes
James Brooke
Geo: Beall
James Peaco
John his Harding
mark
George Crow
James Beall
David Ross
Joseph Beall Son of Ninian
Samll Queen
Jos: Beall
Ben: Perry
Andw Hampton
Daniel Clary
John his EB Beall Son of Scott
mark
Thos Williams

Geo: Gordon
Andw Scott
Sam: Richardson
Geo: Beall
Geo: Hamilton
Richd Lowndes Junr
Vincent Beall Junr
his
Robt RB Beall
mark
Thos Clare
Nin Tannehill
Wm Luckett
William Nicholls
Thos Evans
his
John D Rives
mark
his
John J Palmer
mark
A Magruder

Diggs
John Rew
Jos: Beall
Wm Beall
Thomas Stodart
George Rew
his
John Riddle
mark
Thos Gordon
Groves Tomlison
Thos Drayden
Richard Beall
Lacy Magruder
Joseph Elder
his
Duncan DF Ferguson
mark
Ephrm Darnell
Thos Warring

Black Book 9.

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