

MARTHA

Even if what you say is true, I am a woman, and as we have already established, my opinion is not welcome in the House. Why should he give ear to my complaint?

RICHARD SAUNDERS

Because we hang petty thieves in this country, Mrs. Custis, while appointing the great ones to public office.

He produces a paper bill from his coat pocket.

RICHARD SAUNDERS (CONT'D)

You see, Mr. Robinson serves not only as Speaker of the House, but also, as Treasurer of the Virginia Commonwealth.

Martha examines the bill.

RICHARD SAUNDERS (CONT'D)

Deliver unto him this bill, and say that it was paid to you by a member of this most revered House, and that you suspect money fraud. You simply wish him to investigate.

MARTHA

And what did ye say ye did again Mr. Saunders?

RICHARD SAUNDERS

Salesman or not, Mrs. Custis, perchance - or perhaps even with intention - I have discovered a most insidious plot, in which the Speaker finds himself embroiled.

MARTHA

What, may I ask, is he guilty of?

SAUNDERS

I know not. I know only that as both Speaker of the House and the Treasurer of His Majesty's Royal Colony of Virginia, the man has unaccountable access to printed money, and I also happen to know that the love of money is the root of all evil.

MARTHA

Indeed, all kinds of evil.

RICHARD SAUNDERS

Mrs. Custis, I present you today
with the opportunity to change the course
of history - the opportunity to do
George Washington justice.

You shall find the Speaker at
Wetherburn's Tavern. No one will look
twice at a stove salesman, but beautiful
woman such as yourself, the Speaker
might give ear to.

(beat)

Or you could remain on this cozy
sofa-bench and leave the governing
to your "superiors."