

Original Journal. censured in the sume of 100<sup>l</sup>: tob: to the use of the poor of that County he represents, And carryed in the Affirmative.

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas Waughop Mr Robert Mason & Mr. Philip Clarke and Mr George Lingham for their having been absent are censured according to the aforegoing Vote each in the Sume of 100<sup>l</sup> tob: to the use before declared.

p. 21 Then read over what was done on Saturday last.

Major Hamond and Major Dorsey returne and say they have delivered their Message.

A Member of this house moving that the Vestry of Coventry parish in Somersett County having a considerable sume of tob: in their hands desire of this house whether they shall or build a School.

Put to the Qu[estion and carryed by a] Majority of Voices that they purchase [a Glebe therewith]

Then [appointed the comittee] of Laws.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Richard Hill [Major John] Thompson Mr Philip Clarke Mr Willm Helmesly and Mr. Nicholas Low.

The s<sup>d</sup> Comittee sent out.

Major Thomas Smithson Chairman of the Comittee of Agrievances presents the following Reporte.

By the Comittee of Agrievances proposed 2<sup>d</sup> of May 1696.

That it is too apparent and manifest that the Inhabitants of this province do in great Numbers remove themselves from hence to other Colonyes, that the great Levyes in many County's arise from the number of poor Children & distressed people that many Women and Children are brought into such distress by their husbands leaving them and the Creditor seizing all they have that in many County's the goals are full, and it manifestly appears the Charges of severall County's are thereby increasing by reason the fathers of many poor familys are imprisoned and undone, and their Children consequently come on the Countyes.

That not only the meanest but very many more Substantiall Housekeepers have now exposed their reall Estates to Sale at halfe the Worth, and prepare to depart. That there is no doubt but that Debt and terror of Suite is the principall Cause.

That the Lord proprietary by his Bonds taken for Warr<sup>ts</sup> and Arrears of Rent and the publique Officers for their ffees are now become the Cred<sup>rs</sup> of Vast and imense sumes, which (especially my Lords) are now threatened to be levyed with Rigor though scarce demanded before this last unseasonable year.