

U. H. Journal
1659-98

Wednesday 24th October 1683

The house Satt again present as on Monday and M^r Secr^{ry} Darnall—

The Committee of Accounts go out—

M^r Secretary Sewall goes to the Lower house with the Bill for Lessening the Number of Horses and with this Message—

Upper house 24th October 1683

This house have read the Bill from the Lower house Entituled an Act for Lessening the Number and Bettering the Breed of Horses in this Province But cannot find that this Bill as now Drawn will either Answer the intent or Tittle of the said Act for these two reasons—

1. This Act Will Discourage few People from keeping of horse or Mare Especially any Single Man freeman or person that is no house keeper for the Number of Horses in Every County will so Lessen the Levy That they will pay no more or very Little more or it may be less than formerly—

2^d This Act Lessens not the Number nor Betters not the Breed, But only Transfers the Interest and property of a Horse from one to Another but still the Horse is Alive and Eats Grass and gets into Corn fields as much as Ever

This house is very Willing and thinks it very Necessary that
p. 516 a Law pass for The Lessening the Number and Bettering the Breed of Horses, And in Order to that this house Offers these Propositions to the Consideration of the Lower house Conceiving the same may Answer the End to which the Law is intended Viz^t

1st That Six Stone horses be kept at Six Several Houses in every Respective County of fifteen hands high to be kept in some Safe Inclosure or house to Serve as Stallions in and for that County—

2^d That no Stone Horse be Suffered to range in the Woods, That it shall be Lawfull for any person to kill or Destroy them at pleasure after a certain time

3^d Every Man that is willing to have his Mare gott with fole shall Bring their Mare to one of these Six places who shall be Obliged to lett his Stone horse Leap their Mares for 18^d in Money for the Same—

4th To Encourage the Destroying of Stone Horses Every One bringing before a Justice the Stones of a horse upon Certificate shall be Allowed in the County Levy thirty pounds of Tobacco per horse—

This house desires that the Lower house will draw a New Bill to the Effect aforesaid or any other way that will Answer the End and intent aforesaid and this house shall Concurr therein

Signed p^r Order Tho: Grunwin Cl of Assembly