To the Seaventh quære Cap^t Hoskins is sent to S^r Thomas Original to desire his hono^{rs} appearance here.

Ordrd by the Comittee that the Clerke of this Comitte haue an oath of Secrecy & ffaithfullness given him, and to that purpose Mr Greenfield is sent to the Speaker to deire Mr Watson p. 9 being a Justice of this County to Administr the Oath. The afd Clk has received the Oath of Secrecy & ffaithfullness from the said Mr Watson.

Maj^r Smallwood informed the Comittee from the Speaker that they must Repaire to the house, whither they Imediately repaired.

The Comittee returned from the house.

Capt Hoskins returned wth the Honble Sr Thomas Laurence.

Upon the said Seaventh quære this Comittee report that they have perused the patent granted by their Maj^{ties} to the Secretary of this Province whereby together with what wee are inform'd wee are induced to beleive that the Notaryship may belong to the Secretary but for the more certainty thereof this Comittee referr the house to the Act of Assembly for Setlem' of Officers ffees

John Spratt Clk Comittee

The Comittee adjourne till to Morrow Morning Nine of the Clock.

The which being read the house proceed to Examine the same gradually and soe accordingly give their Opinion &

Upon the reading the first quære in the said Lett^r Specified, Voted wheth^r the same was a Legall Comittm^t or noe, and carryed, nemine contradicente to be an illegall Comittm^t

Upon reading the second quære the house agree wth the

Report of the Comittee.

Upon reading the third quære the house agree wth the report of the Comittee.

Upon reading the ffifth quære together wth the Coppy aforementioned the house agree wth the Report of the Comittee

Upon reading the Sixth quære the house agree wth the

Report of the Comittee.

Upon reading the Seaventh quære the house are of opinion that the Gouerno' Could not dispose of the Notary publicks place ag' the Kings pattent And that this was by the Kings Pattent confirmed unto S' Thomas Laurence as Secretary.

Upon the whole Matter Voted Nemine contradicente, that