

And after the word Maintenance in the 26<sup>th</sup> Line Add for which L. H. J. Collection the Several Naval Officers shall be Allowed after the rate of Eight p Cent.

Signed p Order J Ross Cl. Up. Ho.

Which bill was read here and with the Amendments Proposed passed for Ingrossing.

M<sup>r</sup> Dulany from the Committee Appointed to [in]spect the proceedings of the Land Office And the Abuses. Brings in the following Report.

By the Committee Appointed to Inspect the proceedings in the Land Office and the Abuses therein August 5<sup>th</sup> 1732.

Your Committee hath Inspected such Papers as they could come at and was Informed would give any Insight into the Matter given us in Charge and Also the Examination upon Oath (hereto annext) of M<sup>r</sup> George Noble Surveyour of Prince Georges County, whereby it Appears that Several Land Warrants have been taken out of the Land Office for Several Large Quantities of Land and Located on Very great Tracts more than the Warrants Contained some of which warrants have been renewed from time to time And others of them returnable with all Convenient Speed; And the Locations continued for Severall Years by Colour of the said Warrants Altho none of them have been Actually Executed whether the said Warrants have or have not been paid for, Your Committee have not Enquired, but be that as it Will, Your Committee Conceives that such Practises are Very Injurious to his Lordship, As well as the People, and a very great Obstruction to the Settling the back parts of this Province to his Lordship in Preventing Great Quantities of his back wast Lands (now of no Use or Advantage to him) from being taken up and paid for, And to the Inhabitants who would willingly have taken up and paid for great part of the Lands under those Locations; Which they have been Deterr'd from doing for fear of Engaging in Disputes with the Proprietors of the said Warrants, the said Practises have had this, further Mischievous Effects (as your Committee is Informed) that several People who would have Come from other parts and taken up some of the said back Lands and Settled on them, have rather Chosen and Settled in Virginia and Other places, than Involve themselves in Disputes, of which they could not hope Easily to see an End. P 426

What Locations your Committee *has* seen are hereto Annexed which Concern Lands only on this side the Bay, but Master Taylor has Assured your Committee that People *hath* been hindered from taking up Lands on the Eastern Shore by Locations on very great Bodies of Lands there, without any Warrant to found such Locations upon & Affairs that he can prove the same to the next Assem-