

L. H. J. will pass, the words in actual service between not and are in the 9th Lib. No. 45 Line of the second page being inserted.

Which Bill Here passed with amendment for Ingrossing.

The Following Message [See page 336.]

Sent to the Upper House by Col Ward and M^r Wilson.

A Bill, Entituled, an Act for Erecting a Town in Kent County &c. Read the first Time and ordered to Lie on the Table.

M^r Dulany from the Committee Appointed by the Lower House to Inspect and Consider the State of the Prison of Annapolis and of a Prison to be Built for the Publick use brings in the following Report.

By the Committee appointed by the Lower house to Inspect and consider the State of the prison of Annapolis and of a prison to be built for the publick use, April 1st 1736

Your Committee having Taken the Best Information we Could Concerning the present Prison of Annapolis and the State it is in we find that it was at first a very Inconvenient Building there being but two Rooms in it Viz, One on the Ground Floor, and the Other above, so that when men and Women are Confined as it Often Happens, Either for Debts or Crimes There are no Separate Apartments for them: and such Debtors as have The Misfortune to be in Prison then and who are Kept Generally in the Upper Room are almost Perished with Cold in the Winter and in Danger of being Destroyed by the Stench which in the Summer time Comes from the Lower Room where the Criminals are Confined.

Your Committee have likewise been Informed that Several Unfortunate persons who have been Confined for Debt in the said Prison have Actually Died Some in The Prison, and Others Soon After their Enbargement, and that many who have Escaped with their lives have Contracted such Distempers dureing their Confinement as have greatly Impaired their Constitutions and rendred their lives very miserable So that it may be Truly said that the Goal of Annapolis, besides being a place of Restraint and Confinement has also been a place of Death and Torments to Many Unfortunate People.

The Building it Selfe is so old and great part of the Timbers so rotten That it will Tumble Down if not soon Repaired, which would put the Country To a Considerable Expence, without any Possibility of remedying the Evils whereby so many have already Suffered.

Your Committee therefore begg leave to represent it as their Humble Opinion, that no more money ought to be laid out in Repairing a Building so Inconvenient and Improper in Every Respect as the said Prison is for the Use it was Designed; and that it would be much more for the Honour of the Country to build a New Goal