

Judgment be recorded in a good Record Book in the Office aforesaid, and properly examined. L. H. J.
Liber No. 46

All which is submitted to the Consideration of your honourable House. Signed per Order E. Dorsey, Ct. Com.

By the Committee of Aggrievances and Courts of Justice

Your Committee humbly take leave to inform your House, that some Time in the Summer last past, David Peterkin of Dorchester County, and sundry others in the same County, were complained against by Charles Beckwith, an Overseer of a Highway there, that they had omitted to labour on the Highway, to Capt. Basil Noel, of said County, a Magistrate, and obtained a Warrant on each supposed Omission or Offence; on which Warrants, some particular Persons being thereby at one Time brought before the said Basil Noel, who contrary to all Right, disregarding the Rules and Methods of Procedure ever heretofore used and practiced, refused to hear any Reasons or Excuses of Sickness, want of due notice, or other Reasons whatsoever, or even the Evidence of an Oath, for Conviction of them, or any of them, gave Judgment, as he declared, against them for Payment of One Hundred Pounds of Tobacco on each Warrant, and the Costs of Two Shillings and six pence, which Fee to the Constable your Committee conceive is not warranted by Law.

Your Committee further observe, that Capt. Basil Noel aforesaid hath been heard before them, and hath confessed the Facts so far as related to his own Procedure, and saith he apprehended it right, he being Iudge, but saith further, that if unjust, it was not through any unjust Design, but for want of Knowledge, and that he doubted not but he could justify himself.

All which manner of Procedure, whether occasioned by Ignorance, Corruption, or whatever other Cause, your Committee resolve to be illegal, unjust, and oppressive; and tends to beget in the good People of this Province, his Majestie's liege Subjects, an ill opinion of his Lordship's good Rule and Government.

But humbly submit the whole to the Consideration of your honourable House Signed per Order E. Dorsey Ct. Com.

Which Reports being read, the Consideration of them is referred to the next Session of Assembly.

M^r Speaker communicates to the House the following Message from the Governor, viz

Gentlemen of the Lower House of Assembly

I can truly assure you, that any Prospect of Happiness and Quiet to the People of this Province gives me no less Satisfaction than your selves, and I have done, and shall continue to do everything in my Power to convince you and your Constituents of my sincere Disposition to such desirable Ends: It was therefore that I deferred