

L. H. J. exceeding 1000£ &c An Ingrossed Bill entituled An Act enabling
 Liber No. 46 the Commissioners of Charles Town &c. An Ingrossed Bill enti-
 June 10 tuled, An Act to enable the Justices of P^r George's County to secure
 three Acres of Land &c. an Ingrossed Bill entituled, An Act conti-
 nuing an Act entituled An Act for raising a Duty of three Half
 pence Sterling &c an Ingrossed Bill entituled, An Act for taking off
 p. 795 part of Prince Georges County &c and an Ingrossed Bill entituled,
 An Additional and explanatory Act to the Act entituled, An Act
 empowering the Commissioners of the County Courts to levy &c.
 were severally read and assented to and sent to the upper House
 with the paper Bills by M^r Mackall and M^r Dulany. Richard Lee
 Esq^r from the upper House delivers to M^r Speaker the Journal of
 Accounts, and the following Message. (See page 45)

A Bill entituled a Supplementary Act to the Act entituled, An Act
 requiring the Masters of Ships and Vessels to publish the Rates of
 their Freight before they take any Tobacco on board, was read the
 first and second time by an especial Order, and will pass, and was
 sent to the Upper House by M^r Smith and Major Hall. D^r Carroll
 from the Committee of Laws delivers to M^r Speaker the following
 Report; Viz. By the Committee of Laws, June 10. 1748.

Your Committee humbly observe, That by the Statute 2 W. and
 M. Sect. 1, Chap. 5 a Distress Taken for Rent may in five Days
 be Appraised and sold by the Sheriff, his Deputy, or Constable if
 not within that Time Replevied and which Act hath been judged in
 Force within this province.

By the Laws of our Mother Country, the Sheriff ex officio, upon
 Plaint and Surety, may make Replevin, and order his Bailiffs and
 Deputies to redeliver the Goods or Cattle distrained, and in the
 County Court hear and determine the Legality of such Distress The
 Sheriffs are oblidge by Statute for the Conveniency of the People
 within their County to appoint Deputies to make replevin I Ph. and
 M, Chap. 12. The Sheriffs within this province have at all Times
 been executive rather than Judicial officers; nor does it appear, that
 they have had Cognizance in a judicial way of Replevins.

The County Courts are held within this Province, wherein the
 Justices of the Peace within each respective County are Judges, and
 are Courts of record, having a Clerk; and in such Courts the Sheriff
 is but an executive officer. All Actions popular, and all Actions per-
 sonal, of what sort soever, are tryable in the same Courts, under the
 Value of 100£ Sterling, or 30000 lb of Tobacco; as by the Commis-
 sion And Acts Appear. The Clerk of the same Court makes out
 Writs in all such Actions as aforesaid within the Jurisdiction of the
 Court aforesaid, and under the Seal thereof. Your Committee hum-
 bly conceive, that upon complaint to the Sheriff, that the Goods or
 Cattle of Any person [having] been distrained for Rent, or otherwise;