L. H. J. Liber No. 48 May 6

was not so culpable as our Committee seemed to have imagined, but that he did not appear to have been Guilty of any Misdemeanour whatever. We most humbly intreat your Excellency's Patience while we recapitulate the Affair.

The Report of the Committee and annexed Papers, which were laid before your Excellency, were as follows:

By the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice, February 28th, 1755.

Upon the Representation of Mr. Henry Wright Crabb, one of the Members of the Honourable House, that a certain John Rawlings, Gentleman, one of the Justices of the Peace for Frederick County, had, under Colour of such his Office, caused one Thomas Kelley, a Freeholder of the same County, to be taken up for a Soldier, and that without any Application to him made by any Officer or Officers p. 436 thereto authorized by an Act, entituled, An Act for taking and detaining able-bodied Men for his Majesty's Service, and contrary to the Tenor of the same Act: As also that he the said Rawlings, by his Letter dated the 23d Day of December last past, directed to Messieurs Lynn, Jones, and Prather, Justices of the same County, hereunto annexed, had granted his Warrant to William Spiers, against a certain Benjamin Harris, for the Sum of Two Pounds Ten Shillings, when at the same Time he by the said Letter confesses there was a greater Sum due to the said Spiers from the aforesaid Harris. And further that he the aforesaid John Rawlings did, on the 4th Day of January last, commit a certain John West to the Sheriff of the same County by an illegal Mittimus, a Duplicate of which is hereto annexed. All which Actings of the said Rawlings, your Committee conceive to be contrary to Right and Law: But is humbly submitted to the Consideration of your Honourable House.

Signed p Order. William Wilkins, Clerk.

Mr. Lynn, or Mr. Jones, or Mr. Prather.

Gentlemen,

As I have issued a Warrant against Benjamin Harris, at the Suit of William Spiers, for Two Pounds Ten Shillings, desire that you will not sign up a Judgment against the Plaintiff, for to my Knowledge he has been very ill used by Harris; and I verily believe that Debt to be just, and more if he could bring it under a Warrant.

Am your very humble Servant,

December 23d, 1754.

John Rawlings.

Frederick County ss.t

Take into your Custody the Body of John West, junior, and him safe keep in your Gaol till he has given you Security for his Appear-