

L. H. J.  
Liber No. 48  
May 4

much Room to apprehend they think themselves secure under the notorious Fraud of Pocketing it; and in others (who can't plead Ignorance of the Laws) such an Omission of Duty as we could not suspect, and which your Excellency will observe by the Report, in Regard to the Conduct of the Naval-Officers of Patowmack and Port Annapolis, who, notwithstanding they have received the Duty upon Servants for Seven Years and upwards from many Masters of Vessels, have nevertheless omitted to receive it from others, because (as we presume) they have Entered them under the Title of Convicts, tho' the Duty on such Servants is required to be paid at the Time of Entry; and we conceive to have been the Duty of those Officers to have refused to have Entered such Vessels, until the said Duty was paid down, and not to have taken any Impost-Bond for it; which, if they did, is an Indulgence unknown to the Law, and for which, we apprehend, the Naval-Officers ought to be answerable.

Upon the whole, we think it our indispensable Duty now earnestly to Request, that your Excellency will be pleased to give Directions, that the Office-Bonds, not only of the abovementioned Naval-Officers, but also of all such other Officers as appear, by the said Extract, to have neglected to pay in the Public Monies, or to have Credited the Public for what has been paid in, or any Way to have failed in Point of Duty, be forthwith put in Suit, and that the proper Steps to compel them to a speedy Compliance, may be vigorously pursued. And here we cannot omit particularly mentioning the Behaviour of the Commissioners of the Paper-Currency-Office, in not giving Credit for the Monies paid into that Office by Messieurs Trippe, Porter, and Bradford, as appears by a Transcript from the Provincial Court Proceedings herewith laid before your Excellency, as to Trippe, and as to the others may appear by said Court Proceedings, which we would have laid before your Excellency also, had they been sent up to us as Ordered. And we beg Leave on this Occasion to observe, that one of the Office-Bonds of Turner Wootton, late Sheriff of Prince-George's County, we are informed, is not to be found: This we conceive to be such a Neglect, that your Excellency will cause strict Enquiry to be made into it.

Which was Read and Assented to, and Signed, by Order of the House, by the Honourable Speaker.

p. 428 On Motion, That a Committee be appointed to examine the Books and Accounts of the Agents appointed by the Act for Raising £40,000 &c.

Ordered, That the Committee for Inspecting the Accounts and Proceedings of the Commissioners of the Paper-Currency-Office, &c. do examine the Books and Accounts of the said Agents, and make Report thereof to the House.

The Bill, entitled, An Act for the Relief of certain languishing Prisoners in the several County Gaols therein mentioned, was Read