

L. H. J.
Liber No. 51
Dec. 20

By the Committee appointed to consider the Proposals in the Petition of the Reverend Mr. Bacon, and Report their Opinion thereupon.

Saturday, December 16th, 1758. 3 o'Clock the Committee met.

The Committee desired Mr. Bacon to propose to them, the Sum for which he would undertake to deliver 18 Bodies of Laws, &c. compleated agreeable to his said Proposals; and also the Price he would agree to be limited to in the Sale of his Copies; which he promised to do on Monday Morning next; to which Time the Committee then adjourned.

Monday, the 18th December, 1758. A. M. the Committee met.

Mr. Bacon proposed to the Committee, to deliver the said Eighteen Bodies of Laws, for the Use of the Public, for £. 300 Currency.

The Price of each Copy to Subscribers advancing one Half as usual in such Cases to be Forty Shillings Currency.

Upon Consideration of which Proposals, and the whole Matter referred to them by the Honourable House, your Committee humbly Report it as their Opinion, that the Publication of a Body of Laws of this Province, in the Manner proposed by the Petitioner, would be of great and general Utility.

That three Gentlemen be nominated and appointed by Law (of whom any two, with the Assistance of the Petitioner, and all his Abstracts and Papers relative to the Matter, to act), to inspect carefully all the Records of the Laws of this Province, and to consider what are in Force, or proper to be inserted, or any Way to be taken Notice of in the said Body.

That the Petitioner's Proposals to deliver Eighteen Copies of the said Body, for £300 Currency, is, in the Opinion of your Committee, reasonable, provided they be delivered within 18 Months from the Time the Original may receive the Approbation of the Gentlemen to be nominated as aforesaid.

That the Price to Subscribers wou'd be beter ascertained when the Work is compleated, as the Number of Sheets it may contain can at present be only guessed at.

Your Committee humbly crave Leave further to Report it as their Opinion, That there be a Clause in any Bill which the Honourable House may think proper to have fram'd, for the carrying on and compleating the aforesaid Design, declaring, that all Laws heretofore made, and more especially such, the Force or Existence whereof have been any Ways questioned or disputed, shall remain, continue, and be in the same State and Condition, to all intents, Constructions, and Purposes whatsoever, as if the said Body had not been collected, compiled and published; and that no Law whatever, or any Part thereof, shall be repealed, abrogated, or made null or void, or receive any additional Force or Strength, thereby.