June 2

U.H.J. teen Years, Daughter of the aforesaid Henry Darnall Junior and Rachel Darnall, and of Robert Darnall Uncle to the aforesaid Mary Darnall.

Sheweth

That an Advantageous offer of Marriage hath been made to the aforesaid Mary Darnall, and the Sum of three hundred Pounds p. 380 Sterling a Year is proposed to be settled on the said Mary Darnall, during her natural Life in Lieu, and in Bar of Dower, and the Right she may have to the third part of the Personal Estate, which Settlement your Petitioners approve of, judging it to be for the Benefit of the said Mary, and are willing to execute the same on their parts, but Whereas the Petitioners are informed, that a Settlement to Bar the said Marys Claim of Dower in the Lands, and the Share she might Claim of the Personal Estate, cannot be made effectual and binding in the Law upon the said Mary, she being yet an Infant under the Age of Twenty One Years, And as the Marriage aforesaid is deferred on Account of the apprehended invalidity of the Settlement, intended to be made should it be executed at this time.

Your Petitioners thereof humbly pray, that, in Order to remove all Doubts, about the force and validity of such a Settlement, A Bill may be brought in and passed into a Law, to impower the said Mary Darnall, by and with the Advice of your Petitioners, to enter into and assent to the aforesaid Marriage Settlement, or Articles for the Securing the said Jointure to the said Mary, and in bar of her Right of Dower, and the Share She might Claim of the personal Estate, by the Law or Usage of this Province

And that the said Settlement or Marriage Articles be made, to all Intents and purposes, as binding upon the said Mary Darnall, and of as full force and Virtue in Law as if she were of full Age.

And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will pray &.a

Henry Darnall Junior Robert Darnall Rachel Darnall Mary Darnall.

And the Question being put whether it should pass and be referred to the Lower House, it was determined in the Affirmative, but Daniel Dulany Esq. declared, that tho' he thought the Provision proposed, in respect of the Annual Sum to be Settled was unexceptionable and even liberal. He was against the Question, because it is a Standing Rule of this House not to pass Acts in Consequence of private Petitions, where the remedy or purpose sought is sufficiently provided for by the general existing Laws, and he conceived, that, under the Statute of 27,,th Henry the 8,,th and one Act of 1715, a Jointure properly made upon a Young Lady of Miss Darnall the Petitioners Age, Viz. between 19 and 20., would clearly bar her