

U. H. J.
Liber No. 36
Nov. 16

By the Lower House of Assembly 16:th November 1770.

May it please your Honours.

We return you the Bill for the Relief of certain Prisoners in the several Jails therein mentioned with the Amendments Proposed by your Honours, Altho' a Clause Similar to this Amendment has been heretofore Proposed by your House, and Assented to by this, in Bills for the Relief of Prisoners, Experience has Shewn us that it wants some explanation, and therefore we are unwilling to Agree to the Amendments as it now stands—Whether a person is of sufficient Ability of Body to Labour is a Question of Judgment and Discretion, What shall be said to be a Family is a matter about which doubts have arisen. We think there ought to be some person pointed out to determine these Questions, where they may arise, the Sheriff would be an improper Judge, as he alone would in most Cases be Benefited by the Sale—If your Honours intend that the Justices shall be the Judges, we think it not expressed with sufficient Certainty—We also think it might be more clearly expressed that it should not be Compulsory upon the persons described in the Amendment to serve, but that they ought to have an Election to Serve or take no Benefit by the Law—These Objections being removed we shall Pass the Bill with the Amendment—

Signed by Order Jn.^o Duckett Cl. Lo. Ho

Read the first and second time, by an Especial Order in this House a Bill entitled "A Supplementary Act to the Act entitled An Act for the Relief of the Poor within the several Counties therein mentioned"—and will pass, So Endorsed & Sent to the Lower House by Dan.^l Dulany Esq.:

The following Message is Sent to the Lower House by John B. Bordley Esq.

By the Upper House of Assembly 16:th November 1770.

Gentlemen

Being desirous of removing as far as we can, all Misunderstandings, we must take the Liberty to recapitulate what has Passed in our Intercourse on the Inspection Bill, in order to shew the proper State to which the matter has been brought.

We returned the Bill with a Negative and Message in the last Session, under an Expectation that the Proposal of a Conference would come from your House, as happened on a Similar Proceeding in the Year 1745, and 1766.

No Proposal of a Conference having been made by your House, we inferred that you were averse from making the first Overture, and therefore on our part, Pursuing the Method observed in 1747, we made it.