

disorderly Servants to the House of Correction, and that by the Statute of 7 Jac. cap. 4.

§. 6.  
Who com-  
pellable to  
serve.

Now by the Statute of 5 Eliz. every person unmarried, and every other person (married) being under the age of thirty years, having been brought up in any of the Arts, Sciences, or Trades in the Statute mentioned, is compellable to serve in any the said Trades upon request made by any person using the same Trades except such persons be lawfully retained with some other; or have 40 s. in Land, &c. or 40 l. in Goods, and so allowed by two Justices of Peace, under their Hands and Seals; or have some Farm in Tillage, whereupon to imploy themselves, or be retained with any other person in Husbandry, or in any the same Arts, or any other Art, nor retained or in office with any Nobleman or Gentleman.

5 Eliz. 4.  
P. 2.

Also every person between the age of Twelve years and threescore (not being lawfully retained according to the Statute, nor being a Gentleman born, nor a Scholar; nor having means of 40 s. per annum, or in Goods 10 l. as aforefaid; nor Parents living, having 10 l. in Lands, or 40 l. in Goods and being their Heir apparent) shall be compellable to serve in Husbandry by the year, upon request, &c. See more what persons be compellable to serve, *Hic postea.*

§. 7.  
Wages.

As for Servants Wages generally, they are grown so excessive at this day (in many Countreys) that the poor Farmers are thereby much disabled; for remedy where in, the Justice of Peace shall do well to take it into better consideration, and give remedy.

p. Jul. 66.  
& Lamb.

Any two Justices of Peace may imprison without Bail the Master for Ten days, and the Servant, Work-man, or Laborer, for Twenty one days, that shall give, or shall take or receive excessive Wages, *scil.* Any greater Wages, or other commodity, contrary to the Rates or Wages assessed by the Justices of Peace at their Easter General Sessions; and Proclamation thereof made in that County. And all Retainers promise gift or payment and every Writing, or within six weeks after.

5 Eliz. 3.

Now concerning the Wages of Servants, &c. The Justices of Peace (at every their Easter Quarter Sessions) shall do well to call some grave and discreet persons of that County, and they together respecting the plenty, or scarcity of the time and other necessary circumstances to assess the Wages as well of Servants, as of all Artificers, Handicrafts men, and Laborers, &c. according to the Statute, at their discretions (and yet they to assess the Wages in such manner, as that Servants, &c. may reasonably maintain themselves therewith: And that their Masters should in no wise exceed or give above such Wages, by way of Contract: But yet Masters may reward a well deserving Servant, &c. (over and above his Wages) according as he shall deserve; so that it be not by way of promise, or agreement, upon his Retainer. See the Preamble of the Statute 5 Eliz. 4. that considering the advancement of prices of all things belonging to Servants and Laborers, if more reasonable Wages and Allowances be given them than is limited by former Statutes, it would be too great a grief and burden to the poor hired Servants and Laborers.

Of which Rates, Proclamation shall be made, and the Justices may every year alter and reform the same, as in their discretions shall seem meet. And every Justice of Peace shall be present at the Taxing such Wages, unless reasonable cause of his absence upon Oath, to be allowed by the said Justices, or forfeit 10 l.

By the Law of God, *Thou shalt not oppress an hired Servant, that is needy and poor; but thou shalt give him his hire speedily, for therewith he sustaineth his life.* Deut. 24. 14. 15.

And