

At nine of the Clock the House met again.

Present all as before except Mr Tueman & the Governour

Then was sent the Act for the Surveyors to the Lower House & returned again with their Assent

Then was brought an Act for giving Passes to Persons that are to depart this Province from the Lower house, as also an Act against Runaways & assented to by the Lower House.

The House Adjourned for two Hours

The House met again.

Then came a member of the Lower House with an Act reviving these temporary Laws now expired

To the R^t hon^{ble} the Upper & the honourable the Lower Houses of this present General Assembly

The humble Petition of W^m Smith Ordinary Keeper

Sheweth - That your Petitioner was obliged for seven years to keep ordinary here at St. Marys, & thereby is constrained to give Credit through all the Province, likewise that there is an Act Entituled an Act for the Encouragement of Ordinary Keepers which provides Execution for all Bills & Accounts under hand Writing & Witnesses due to any Ordinary Keepers, which your Petitioner finds immaterial by reason in Courts & other busie times many Persons after two or three days stay go away without setting their hands to their Acc^t or passing Bill, by which means your Petitioner through distance of place multiplicity of publick Business & not well knowing the People is rendered incapable of procuring his Debts, & in the end such Debtors have the Liberty to plead to his Loss that Act where Acc^t are not made: able after such a time, by which means your Petitioner is prevented from the preservation of his publick Employment without speedy redress which he humbly tenders to your Honours may be thus expressed that is his Books being avouched by his Book Keepers Oath He keeping four Books for that purpose, one for every Provincial Court & once a year they being all drawn into one Executions may be signed upon it He not intending to prejudice the Country thereby but only to get his real debt, hereby obliging himself not to sue any Execution but from the tenth October to the last of March that is Tobacco time, and so people that otherwise have fraudulent Intentions hearing of this will pass their bills or sign their Acc^t before their departure.

Your Petitioner further shews to your Honours that after Execution signed he is enforced to put his debts unto the Sheriff, to collect who through multiplicity of publick Business or neglect is very late before his Debts are received or accounts returned, by which means