

A Bill for empowering the Commissioners of the County Courts to levy and raise money to defray the necessary Charges of their Counties read the first time and will pass with Amendments  
March the 23 1697/8

The Council again sat and were Present as Yesterday

Upon reading Mr Masons Letter and Accounts this day sent from the House by Mr Hutchinson and others this Board do not find that he hath returned any Account but was before exhibited and sworn to last Assembly therefore see a necessity that the said Mr Mason be sent to because it is thought fit that all the publick Accounts be settled before the Assemblys breaking up

(Reflections being made in England how the publick money is disposed of) and the said Mr Mason is not able to discharge his duty of Treasurer that there another person be appointed in his stead

Captain Richard Hill Mr Philip Clark Mr Simon Wilmer and Mr William Stone by being Lieutenant Col John Thompson to make oath to his publick Accounts who made Oath there to accordingly

Upon reading the Houses answer to several proposals from this Board (advised) that some proposals be made to the House about the Indians living at the head of Potomack and Susquehannock that the same may be sent to the Governor of New York

Brought from the House of Delegates the following Bills viz

A Bill for the better dividing Saint Pauls and Shrewsbury parishes read the second time and passed

A Bill Empowering the Commissioners of the County Courts to levy and raise money to defray the necessary Charges of their Counties read and passed

A Bill for removing Cecil County Sheriff read the second time and passed

A Bill for restraining the Exactions of the Sheriffs Sub Sheriffs and Deputy Commissioners read the second time and passed

A Bill for Stay of Executions read the second time and Passed

A Bill for securing the Parochial Libraries of this Province &c read the first time & it is remarked the former Law ought to be Repealed

By His Excellency the Governor and Council in Assembly March the 23 1697/8

This Board require the House would send up some of their members to confer about settling the Courts and that they would bring the Bills appointing Court days with them  
Signed for the Hon. Deaton & the Council

Sent by Esq Tench Esq Frydy with the Bills now read several Resolves of the House upon proposals sent from this Board have been here received and Read and part of them remem-bered as follows

1<sup>st</sup> Viz<sup>o</sup> the Resolve that Servants have Justice done them by way of Petition

It is Remarked that there is no Law to warrant that way of proceeding as by a late Trial in a Court of Appeals at this Board has been sufficiently argued and determined but may by a Law be supplied

2<sup>nd</sup> The resolve touching Ordinary Keepers

This Board supposing it to be a matter of consequence and Concern the Country desire a Conference about it

3<sup>rd</sup> The resolve in answer to the proposals about securing letters the same being adjudged to be a matter of so great Concern both to his Majesty and the Country a Conference is necessarily required thereon

Upon Reading the Houses Answer to a Message from this Board sent for appointing certain members to draw up a Bill for the better Regulating the militia it is Resolved a matter of so great Importance to the Country that a Conference is required with the whole House for settling thereof

This Board want to know what Grievances the House has received from the several Parts of the Country Expecting to Deuse that Comonities Journall as well as the House