

4
are Continued according to ye foregoing Vote each in ye Sum of 100^l to
to ye use before declared.

Then Read Over what was done on Saturday last.

Major Hammond and Major Jordan (et cetera) and Gay they have delivered
their Message.

A Member of this House Moving that ye Vestry of Coventry Parish
in Somerset County having a considerable Sum of 200^l in their Lands
desire ye Opinion of this House whether they shall therewith purchase
a Glebe or build a School.

Put to ye Question and Carried by a Majority of Voices that they
purchase a Glebe therewith.

Then appointed of ye Committee of Lawes-
Capt. Richard Hill, Major John Thompson, Mr. Phillip Clarke, Mr.
William Helmsly and Mr. Nicholas Low.

The said Committee Mett-

Major Thomas Smith for Chairman of ye Committee of Agrievances &
presents ye following Reports.

By ye Committee of Agrievances proposed 2^d of May 1696.

That it is too apparent and Manifest that ye Inhabitants of this Province
do in great Numbers remove themselves from hence to other Colonys,
that ye great decay in many Countys arise from ye Number of poor Chil-
dren and distressed people, that many Women and Children are brought
into such distress by their Husbands leaving them and ye Creditor seizing on
all they have that in many Countys ye Goals are full, and it Manifestly
appears that ye Charges of several Countys are thereby increasing by reason
ye Fathers of many poor Families are imprisoned and undone, and
their Children consequently come on ye Countys - That not only ye Meanest
but very many more Substantiall Housekeepers have now exposed
their Real Estates to Sale at halfe their worth, and prepare to depart -

That there is no doubt but debt and ye tenor of Suite is ye principall
Cause - That ye Lord Proprietary by his Bonds taken for
Warrts and arrears of Rent, and ye publique Officers for their Fees are
are now become ye Creditors of vast and immense Sums which &
(especially My Lords) are now threatened to be levied with Rigor though
Ye are demanded before this last unseasonable Year.

That such doing will augment ye Terror with all ye bad Consequences
of it. That it is improbable the Province can pay all those Bonds, Bills,
and arrears in many places in Ready Tob^o - that the House would
Consider some way that such Debts maybe more easily paid, and that
without such Terrors - and dread of imprisonment: which may perhaps
in some Measure (at least in ye Tenor of it) be mitigated if his Lordships
Agents and all publique Officers be restrained from having Writts of