

way of petition. Upon proposall whether the practice of sending out Venue Facias by the Act of Indictments act. Several that have bastards being too Chargeable and delatory, whether it may not be convenient to have a more expeditious way if possible found out.

Referred to the Committee of Laws to draw up a bill for remedy thereof. It being recommended that some means or other be used to restrain the refractoriness of Seamen.

Thought that the Laws of England and of this Province have sufficiently provided therefore.

Upon proposall that Care be taken about (Regulating of Ordinaries and that none be suffered except such as will comply with the Law.

This House doo think it absolutely necessary that Ordinaries be kept at several places in the several Counties altho' the persons desiring to keep the Game be not Capable of complying with the Act now in force for that some people by reason of the Situation of these Houses so near the Roads are suppressed by Coasters and Travellers expecting free quarters that they are not that able to keep these Houses open without keeping Ordinaries. And for that by Ordinaries kept in such places by such persons tho' indifferently qualified private House are not so over much burthened by Strangers and Travellers.

That some Ordinance be made for the better securing all Goods brought in by Masters of Ships &c.

The House conceived it will be in vain to make such Ordinance against the Masters of Ships because they take in and bring such letters upon Country and under no Compulsion in England.

That some better Care be taken about Orphan.

The Laws already made have sufficiently provided that Encouragements be given to Cooper and Carpenters.

Their Wages is conceived to be sufficient Encouragement.

That there be certaine forme of Oaths prescribed to be taken by the several officers within this Province and Charge for the Grand Judges.

Referred to the Committee of Laws to Inquire and Make Reports to the House therein.

House adjourned till 4 of the Clock to Morrow Morning at Colonel Robothams Chamber.

Wednesday March the 23rd 1697.

The House being met was called over. Then read what was done Yesterday.

The Resolves of this House upon his Ex^{ty} proposalls Considered Yesterday read and sent to the Council, by Mr. Hutchison and Mr. Beale. Resolved that the Clarke of this House give Notice to the Hon^{ble} G^o. Thomas Laurence Barr^{ter} his Majesty's Secretary of this Province