

Which being Read and debated put to the Question whether the
petitioner have leave to bring in a Bill or Not

Carry'd by Majority of Votes in the Negative
The Petition of John Richard and Jacob Stallings again Read
and Referred for Consideration the next Session of Assembly
Coll Smith from the Committee of Aggravances Reports to
the House as follows

By the Committee of Aggravances December 8th 1700
It's humbly Offer'd to this Committee as an Aggravance
to the Province in General that the Commissioners of Oyer
and Terminor of the severall County Courts being Reduced of
late to Ten thousand Pounds of Tobacco or fifty pounds Sterl.
has Occasion'd many Law Suits to be brought into the Prov.
Court if Enlarg'd would prevent and likewise remove to the
Case of the Sutors of the said Courts, all which is humbly
Referred, by this Committee as an Aggravance to the Honble
House of Delegates, and that they will Address his Excellency
to enlarge the said Commissions

Signed for order John Beale C. Com^r

Which being Read in the House is allow'd and the following
Address prepar'd thereupon viz^t

By the House of Delegates Decemb^r 8th 1700.
May it please your Excellency.

Wee humbly beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that
it is reported to this House as an Aggravance, that the Restriction
or Limitations of the Commissions of the County Courts not
to hear Try, determine or give Judgment, in any Action for any
greater Sume then Ten thousand pounds of Tob. or fifty pounds
Sterling is the Cause of many Actions being brought to the provincial
Court, which might be heard and determin'd in the County Courts
for half the Cost and much sooner, come to a determination to the Advantage
of Plaintiff and Defendant — Therefore humbly desire your
Excellency to Issue new Commissions to the severall Counties. Impowring
the Justices to hear and determine all Actions of what nature soever
Excepting Titles of Land or Criminal Cases extending to life or
Member which can be no Prejudice to the Sutors as long as they
have Liberty of Appeals or bringing writs of Error

Signed for order Rich. Dallam C. Sec^y Deb.