

(Wednesday, at Two of the Clock in the Afternoon.)

The House met according to Adjournment. The Members were call'd, and all present as in the Morning.

On reading the Petition of *William Vernon*, and *Keyfar Knighton*, Order'd, That Messieurs *James Holliday*, *John Beale*, and *Joshua George*, be appointed a Committee to examine into the several Allegations in the said Petition, and report the same to the House.

The Petition of *Edward Parish* and *John Parish*, was read, and referred to the last mentioned Gentlemen, in order to make their Reports thereon, in relation to the Allegations therein contained.

The Petition of *John Aldridge*, was read, and granted.

By the Lower House of Assembly, May 27, 1730.

May it please your Honours,

*John Aldridge* of Prince George's County, hath petitioned this House to allow him in Money for Four Thousand and Five Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, at Twelve Shillings and Six Pence Currency per Cent. for a Negroe belonging to him, convicted last Year for a capital Crime; and this House having granted the said Petition, desireth your Honour's Concurrence.

Sign'd per Order, *M. Macnemara*, Cl. Lo. Ho.

The above Messige and Petition were sent to the Upper House by *Col. Belt*, and *Capt. Sprigg*; who return, and say they delivered the same,

*Col. Greenfield*, from the Committee appointed to consider of a Tobacco-Law, brought in a Report from the said Committee, and read it in his Place.

The Report was as followeth, viz.

At a Committee of both Houses of Assembly, met at Mrs. *Jordan's*, May 26, 1730, to consider of a Tobacco-Law.

Present

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|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| The Honourable | <i>Philemon Lloyd, Esq;</i>   | } of the Upper House; |
|                | <i>Richard Tilghman, Esq;</i> |                       |
|                | <i>Philip Lee, Esq;</i>       |                       |
|                | <i>Col. Greenfield,</i>       | } of the Lower House. |
|                | <i>Mr. Dulany,</i>            |                       |
|                | <i>Major Harris,</i>          |                       |
|                | <i>Mr. Fenings,</i>           |                       |
|                | <i>Mr. Samuel Hanson,</i>     |                       |
|                | <i>Mr. Key.</i>               |                       |

The Committee chose the Hon. *Philemon Lloyd, Esq;* Chairman, and *Richard Lewis*, Clerk. Your Committee, having taken into Consideration, the Heads of a Bill, for restraining People from making too great a Quantity of Tobacco; and being of Opinion, that unless the Quantity hereafter to be made, be very considerably reduced below what hath been made for several Years last past, all other Provisions will, in all Probability, be ineffectual, Your Committee therefore submit to the Consideration of both Houses, Whether it may not be necessary to reduce the Quantity of Tobacco Plants, as follows?

- 6000 Plants. All Taxables employed in making Tobacco tend only ----- 5000
- All Persons Male or Female House-keepers, not having more than one Taxable, each ----- 7000
- 3000 Each. The Male Children of poor People, between the Age of 12 and 16. - - - 2500
- 3000. White Women allowed, by the former Act, to tend Tobacco. ----- 2500
- 13 to 16. All Persons, having more than One Taxable, and not more than Four, shall be allowed to tend Tobacco with each Male Child, from 14 to 16, and all their Male Servants or Slaves. } 2500

Such Person and Children only excluded, and Servants and Slaves from 13 to 16, allowed to Plant. No Person having 5 Taxables, who work without Doors, shall be allowed any Number of Plants for himself, or any of his Children under 16 Years of Age, or for any Servant, whether hired or otherwise, or for any Slave under the same Age.

Provision shall be made, to prevent the hiring out half Taxables, in order to evade the Law. That Tradesmen be restrained, as they were intended to be, by the Supplementary Bill, prepared by the Lower House, last Session. That Payments in Tobacco now settled and stated by Laws in Force, be reduc'd, in Proportion to the Quantity that Tobacco will be lessen'd, by the propos'd Restrictions, as near as may be; which your Committee presumes, will be a Fourth Part. That an Equivalent be paid in Grain at stated Prices, except the Allowances to the Members of both Houses of Assembly, Judges or Justices in the several Courts of Judicature, and Fees and other Allowances chargeable in the Publick or County Levies; of which, one Fourth Part to be deducted without any Equivalent.

That