

The House concurs with the Report, and ordered, that a Bill be brought in to remedy the Evil therein mentioned; and that the same be prepared, and brought in by the Committee of Laws.

On reading the Report made to the Committee of Aggrievances, on the 12th Instant, the House concurs therewith; except with what relates to refusing of Money, said to have been rendered for Rent, for which, a Negro that belonged to the Rev. Mr. James Williamson, was detained, and refusing to return back or deliver the said Negro, when the Money was rendered, Mr. Williamson, the Evidence thereto, not attending: And excepting also, what relates to the receiving a Pistole weighing 11. 3s. 10d. for 12s. 10d. Sterling; which appears to have been received by Mr. Crockett, before the Directions in Writing, in the Report mentioned, given to the said Crockett.

The House adjourns until To-morrow Morning, Nine of the Clock.

Tuesday Morning, May 17, 1737.

THE House met according to Adjournment.

Doctor Samuel Chew, and Mr. John Galloway, ordered to attend. They attended accordingly,

Mr. Speaker acquaints them, That as it appears, what they acted, was in Conformity to Instructions given them by Mr. Philip Thomas, this House, out of Lenity to them, have thought proper to pass over that Part of their Behaviour, without Censure; but is of Opinion, that they ought to refund the several Sums of Money unjustly received by Virtue of the said Instruction, and are ordered to refund the same accordingly; and thereupon, are discharged from any further Attendance, paying the several Fees due, and the Evidences Attendance.

The House adjourns until Two of the Clock in the Afternoon.

Post Meridiem.

The House met according to Adjournment.

The Question was put, Whether the Bill, intituled, *An Act against Ingrossers and Regrators*, should have a second Reading, or not? Resolv'd in the Negative.

A Bill, intituled, *An Act empowering the Justices of Cecil County Court, to levy on the taxable Inhabitants of St. Stephen's North Sassafras Parish, the Sum of 280l. Current Money of Maryland, at Two equal Assessments.* Read the first Time, and ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. Grundy Pemberton, a returned Member for Queen-Anne's County, appeared in the House this Afternoon.

Mr. George, and Mr. Tilghman, ordered to go to the Upper House, and see him take the several Oaths to the Government. They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, they see him qualified.

On Consideration of the Report made by the Committee of Aggrievances, the House made the following Resolves, viz.

Resolved by this House, That the exacting and extorting from His Lordship's faithful Tenants in Maryland, Foreign Gold and Silver, in Discharge of their Quit-Rents and Alienation Fines, at any Rate under the Sterling Value, is illegal and oppressive, and a manifest Violation of the right Liberties of the People.

Resolved by this House, That Philip Thomas, and Gilbert Crockett have, in an illegal and unreasonable Manner, exacted and extorted from the Inhabitants of this Province for Quit-Rents, several Sums of Foreign Gold and Silver, at a Rate far inferior to its Sterling Value, contrary to His Lordship's Instructions; and also, Sums of Money, on Pretence of Fees for their Trouble in collecting, that's not warranted by any Law or Custom. And further Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency, setting forth, the Oppressions, Exactions, and Extortions aforesaid, by the same Philip Thomas, and Gilbert Crockett, committed; and to entreat His Excellency to order Prosecutions against them for the said Crimes; and that His Excellency would be pleased to use his Endeavours to prevent such for the future.

Messieurs Stoughton, Hammond, and George, ordered to draw an Address to the Governor, to set forth the Grievances reported by the Committee.

Mr. Philip Thomas, and Mr. Gilbert Crockett ordered to attend. They attended accordingly.

Mr. Speaker acquainted them, that this House was of Opinion, That they had, in an illegal Manner, exacted and extorted from many Inhabitants of this Province for Quit-Rents, several Sums of Foreign Gold and Silver, at a Rate far inferior to the Sterling Value, contrary to the Lord Proprietary his Instructions; and also, Sums of Money and Tobacco, on Pretence of Fees for their Trouble in collecting; all which, were not only Aggrievances, but tended to alienate the Minds of His Lordship's faithful Tenants; That this House was further of Opinion, That they make Restitution to the several Persons from whom they extorted those Sums mentioned, and pay the several Fees due, and the Charges of the Evidence; upon which they are discharged from any further Attendance on this House.

Philip Lee, Esq; from the Upper House, delivers Mr. Speaker, a Bill, intituled, *A Supplementary Act to the Act, intituled, An Act for the more effectual Punishment of Negroes and other Slaves, and for taking away the Benefit of Clergy from certain Offenders*: And to *An Act, intituled, An Act to prevent the tumultuous Meetings and other Irregularities of Negroes and other Slaves, and directing the Manner of trying Slaves.* Which was read the first Time, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The House adjourns 'til To-morrow Morning 9 o' Clock.