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An ingrossed Bill reviving an Act of Assembly entitled a Supplementary Act to the Act entitled an Act... laying an imposition on Negroes and on several sorts of liquors and also on Irish servants to prevent the importing too great a number of Irish papists into this Province, and the ingrossed Bill entitled an Act reviving an Act of Assembly entitled an Act for the advancement of Justice - as also an Act of Assembly entitled a Supplementary Act to the Act for advancement of Justice, severally read and assented to and sent to the Upper House, with the paper Bills by M^r. Byrson and M^r. Prunsey. - M^r. Matthews from the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice delivers M^r. Speaker following Report.

By the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice May 16th 1788

Y^{our} Committee having received information that the Honourable Henry Hooper and Stephen Knight Esq^r. two of his Lordships Justices of the Provincial Court being appointed to ride the Circuit on the Eastern Shore, at the Court of Assize held for Talbot County, at the said County Court House in April last past being and judiciously sitting, did receive a presentment of their Grand Jury of inquest against several of the Justices of the same County Court, for that they the said County Justices had refused to issue Subpoenas at the request of the Grand inquest at the Court held for the said County in the month of March last past (as will more plainly appear by the Presentment here with brought into this Honourable House) which Presentment the said Henry Hooper and Stephen Knight did not only quash, but on an application of the then Grand inquest for subpoenaing three or four Witnesses by whose Evidence they the said Jurors might inquire into the truth of certain Offences (said to be committed in that County) against the good rule and Government of this Province, and whereof being sworn and sworn did refuse to send to said inquest, and others to Summon, telling the said Jurors they must advise with his Lordships Prosecutor and inform him of the facts and Persons of which and against whom their Inquiries were levelled, otherwise they the said Jurors should have no Evidence, that the then Jury conceiving such an Infamation would be a manifest breach of their Oath, did inform the said Justices of Assize that then they could proceed no farther, notwithstanding which the said Justices did persist in their refusal. All which practices your Committee conceive to be not only an Omision of the duty of their Office, but an invasion of the Rights and Liberties... of his Majesty's Loyal Subjects of this Province and particularly on that part the Trial by Jury, and therefore submit them to the Consideration of this Honourable House -
Signed order of the Committee Tho. Lynn Esq^r

We the Grand Jurors for Talbot County upon our Oaths do present Thomas Bozman, Prizon - Bozman, John Loebe, Anthony Richardson and John Robins, they being the Major part of the... Justices of the County Court then sitting, for that they at the Court held for Talbot County aforesaid in March last past then and there judic^{ly} sitting as Members of the same Court and Application being made to them to issue Summonses for Witnesses by the then Grand Jury who were on Inquiries pursuant to their Oaths and Charge, the aforesaid Justices did refuse to issue such Summonses to the great discouragement of all Inquirers and obstruction of Justice as well as... encouragement of Evil Doers -
N. Goldborough Foreman

Test
John Edmondson
Thom^s. Steward
Nich^s. Goldborough Jun^r.
William Edwards

On the back of the foregoing presentment was this indorsement
Quashed by order of the prosecutor, Est. Tho. Knight Esq^r.

The house adjourns until 3 of the clock in the afternoon
Post Meridieum The House met according to adjournment
M^r. George Wilson a member returned to serve for Kent County appeared in the afternoon